

this show
is so damn
good

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HIT MONKEY
hulu





GREEN LANTERN

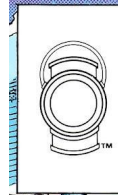


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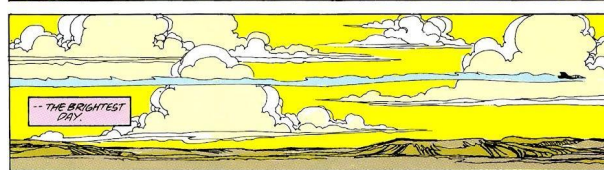
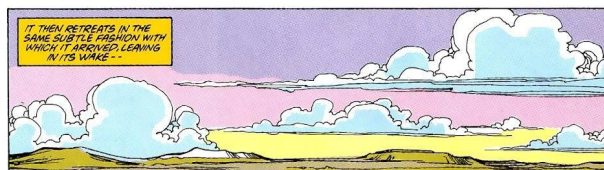
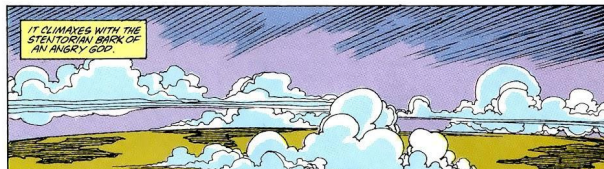


EMERALD DAWN

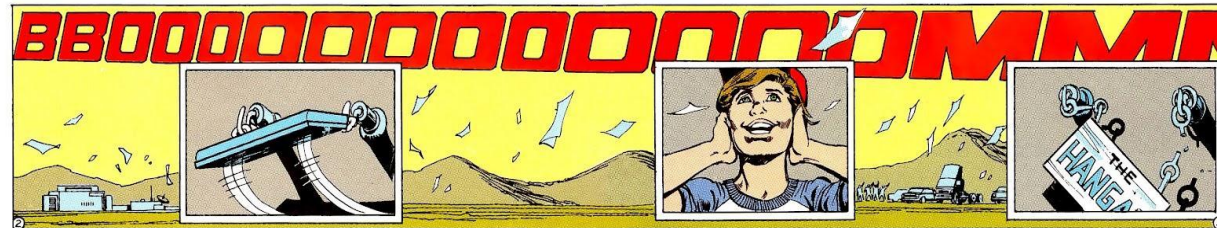
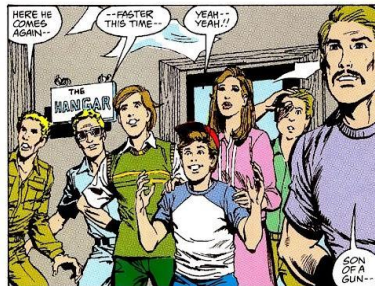
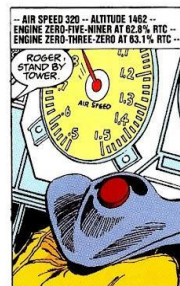
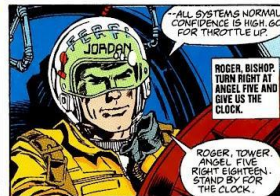
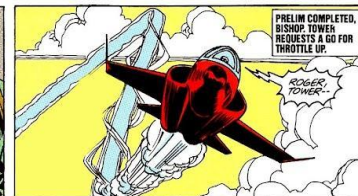
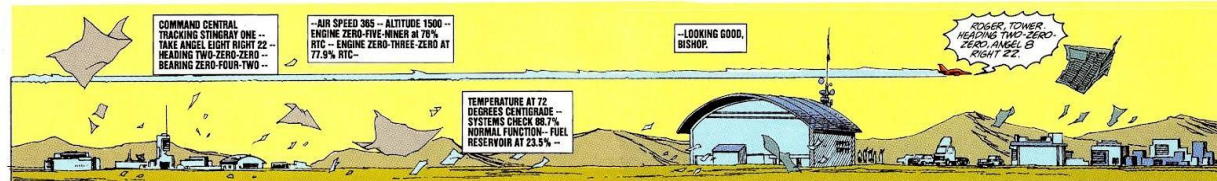
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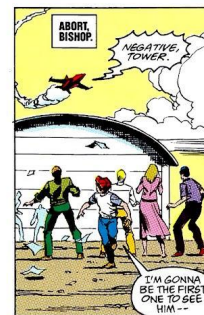
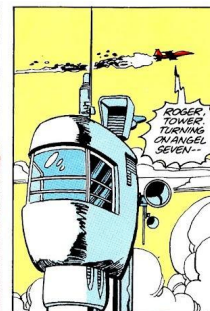
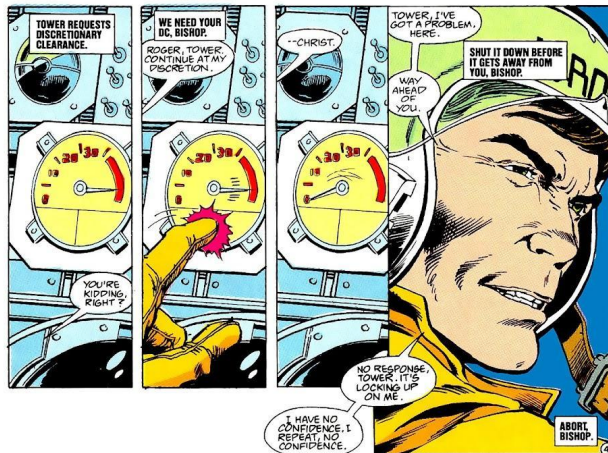
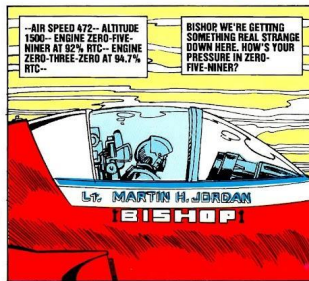


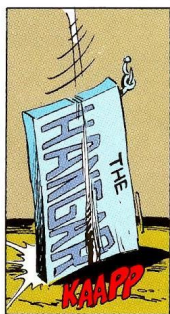
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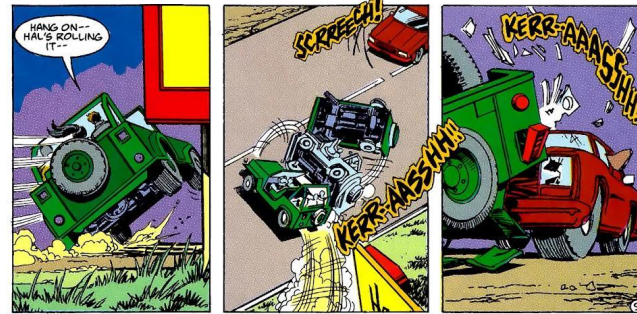
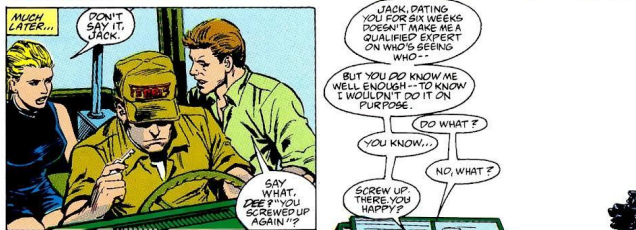
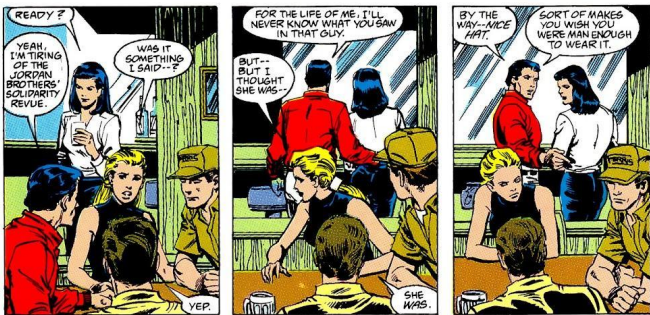


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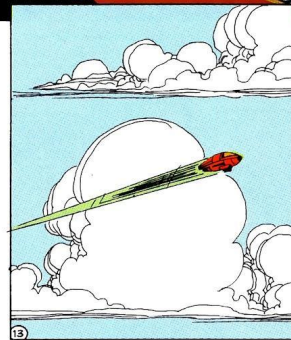


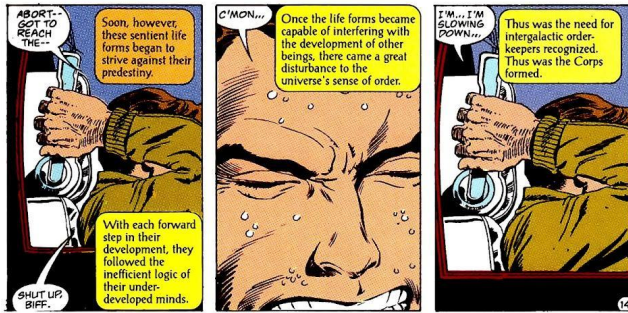
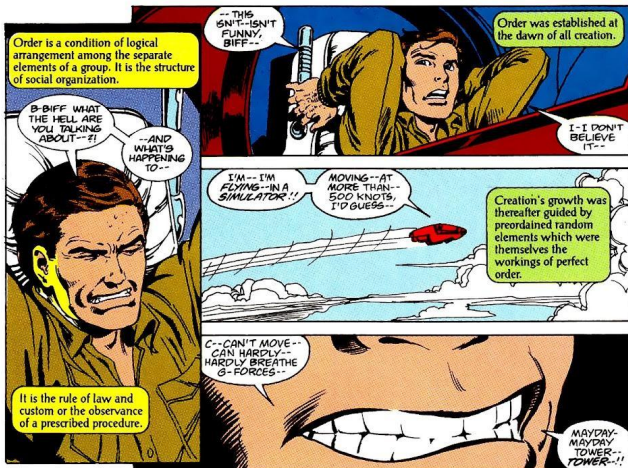












Knowledge is the sum of all reason and perception.

Power is force prevailing over mass.

Power without reason is chaos. Force without knowledge is destructive.



The Corps is ultimate knowledge harnessed to ultimate power.

The lantern is the source.

The Corps is the knowledge. The lantern, the power.

Chaos is routed. Order is maintained.

NO.

Wield the power. Maintain order.

NO!!



Be sober. Be vigilant.

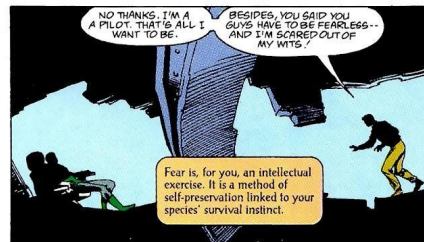
You are one of us now.

THE HELL, I AM!!



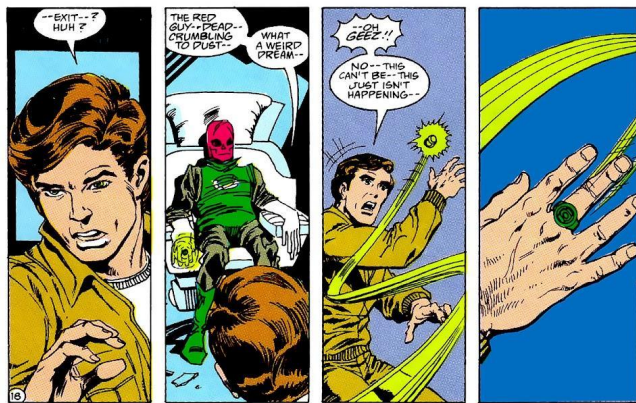
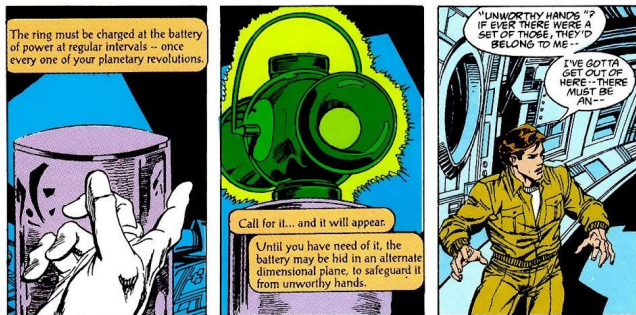
This is about the survival of entire races. Of worlds and cultures you've not ever dreamed of.

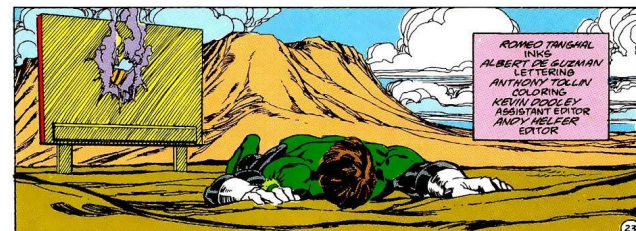
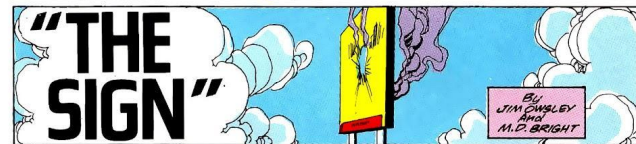
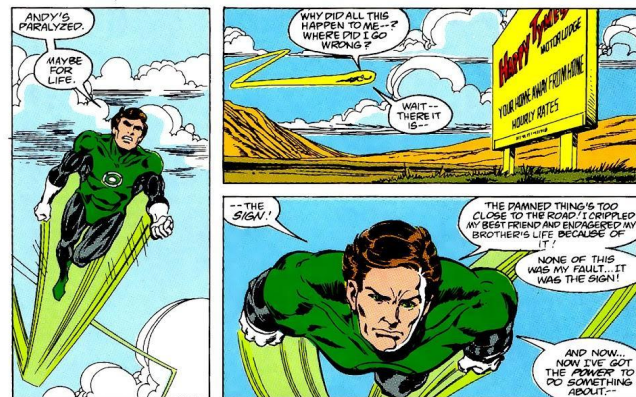
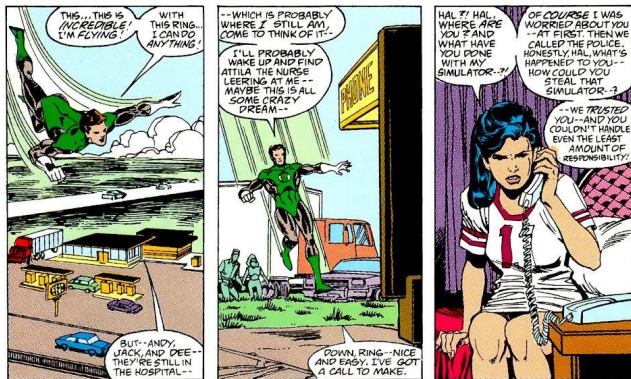
Of a responsibility that transcends your mortal bonds. Of a power greater than your finite mind may imagine.



Fear is, for you, an intellectual exercise. It is a method of self-preservation linked to your species' survival instinct.









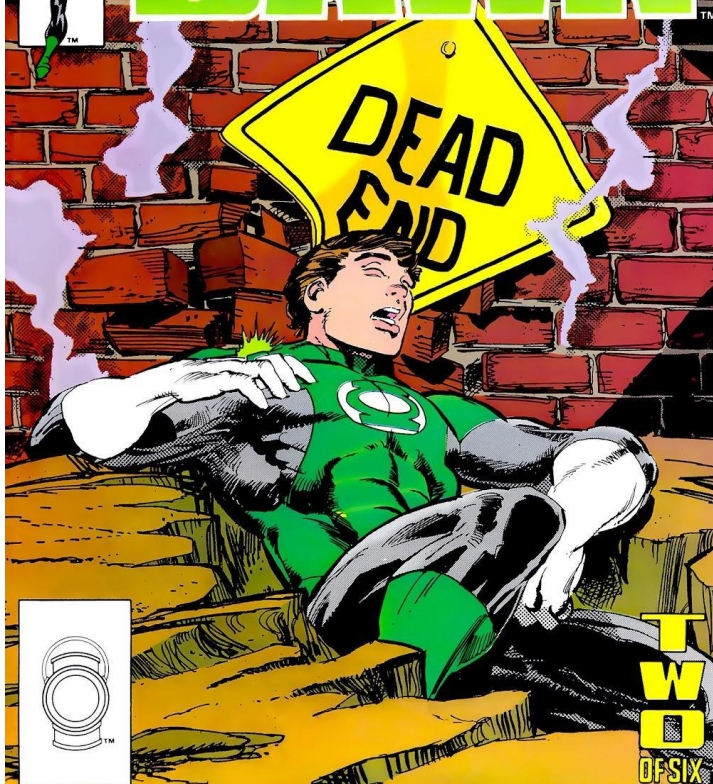
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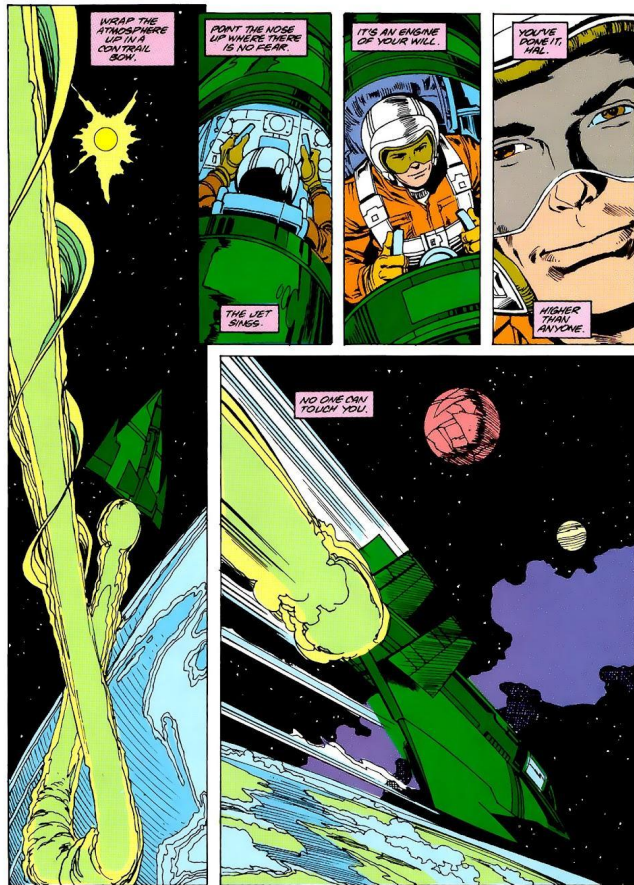
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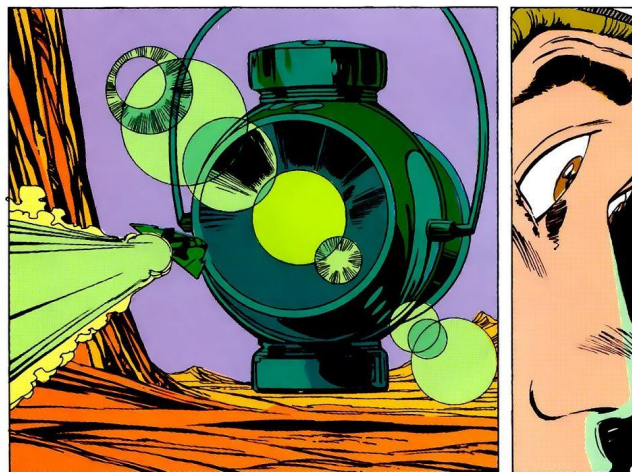


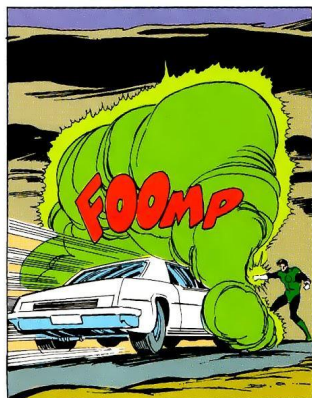
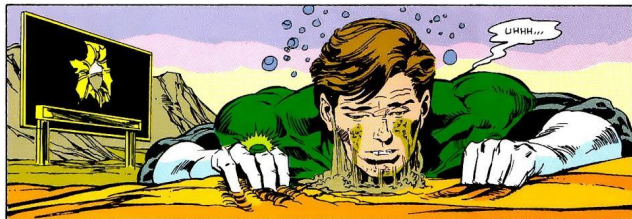
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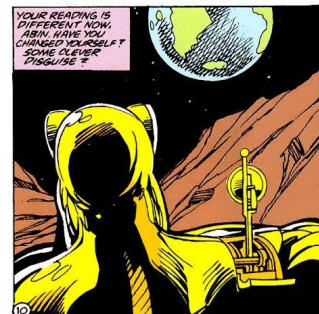
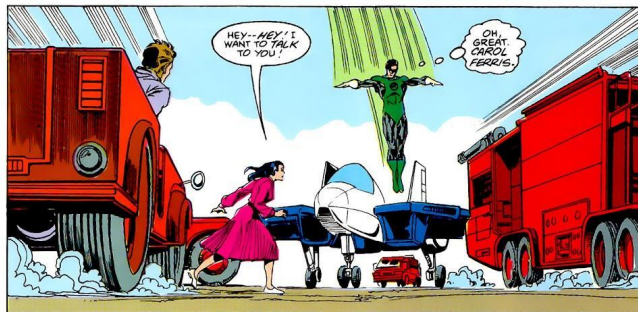
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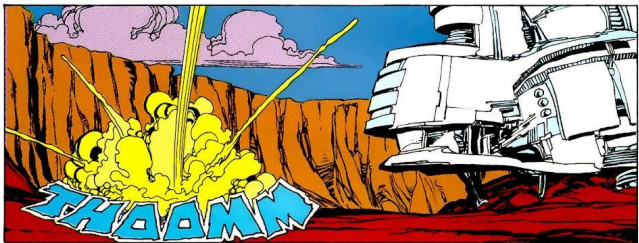
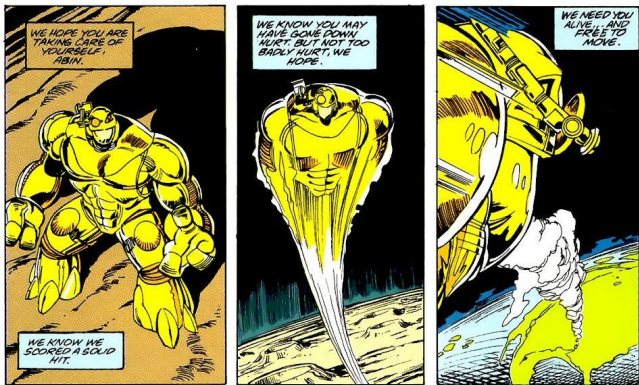


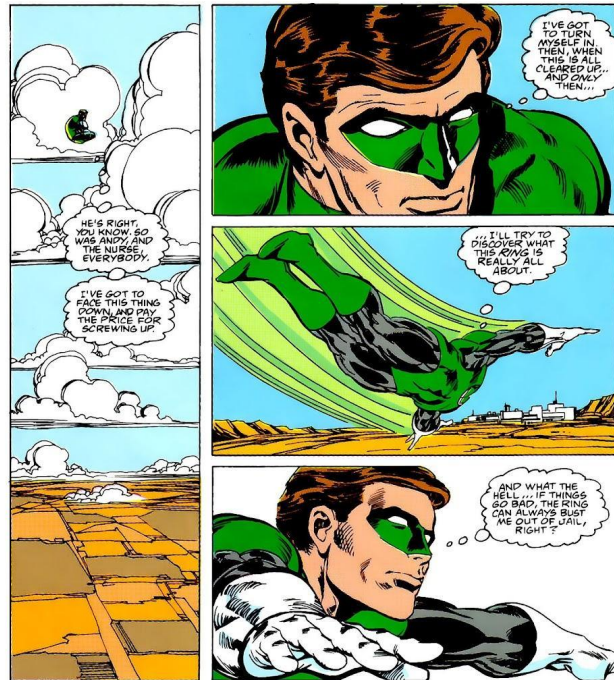
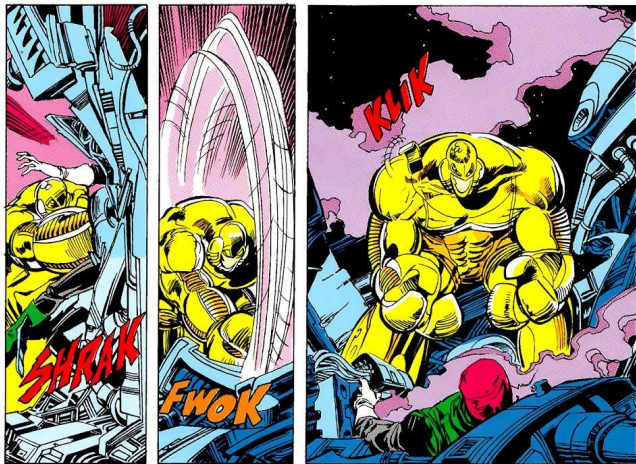




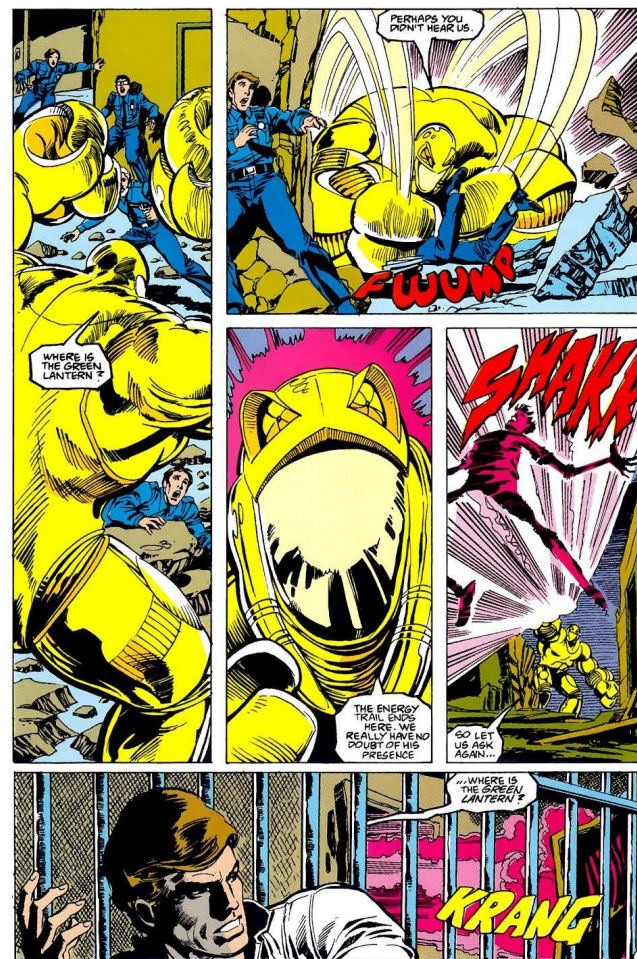
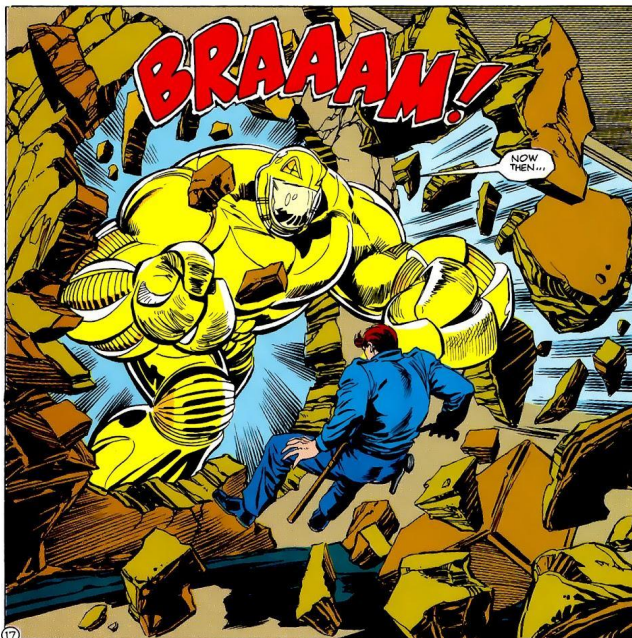


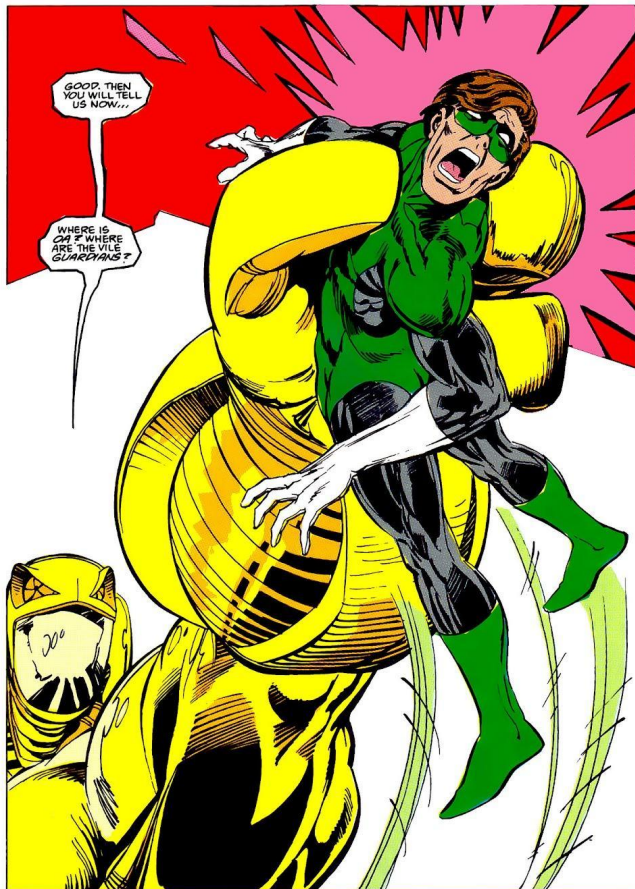
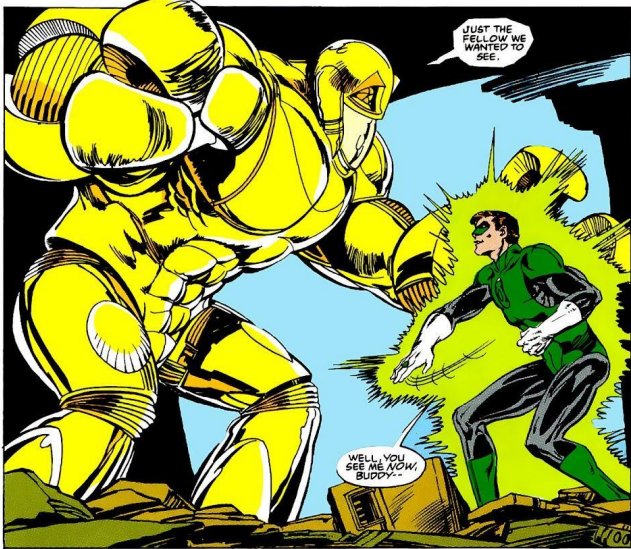












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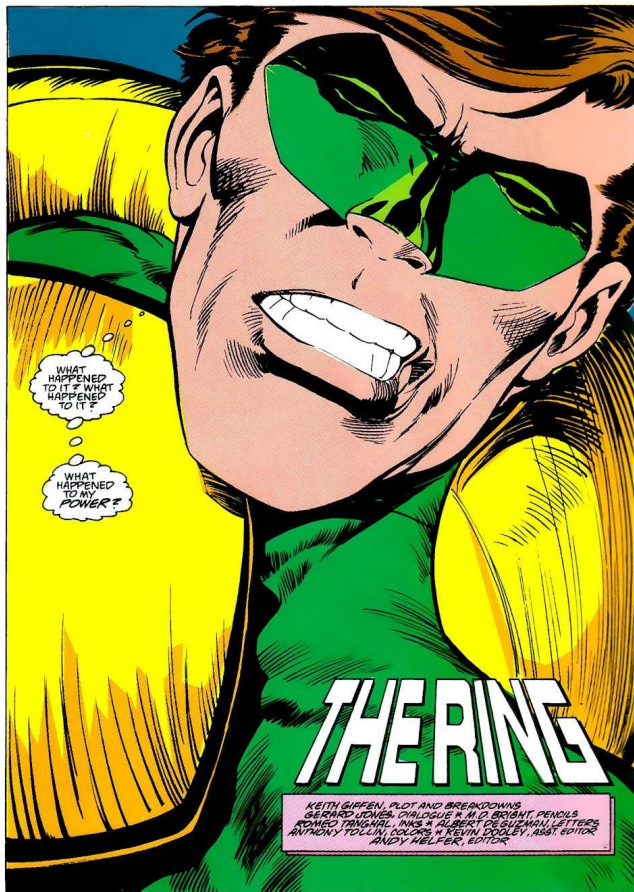


GREEN LANTERN

EMERALD DAWN



THREE
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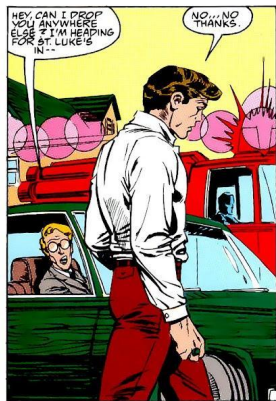
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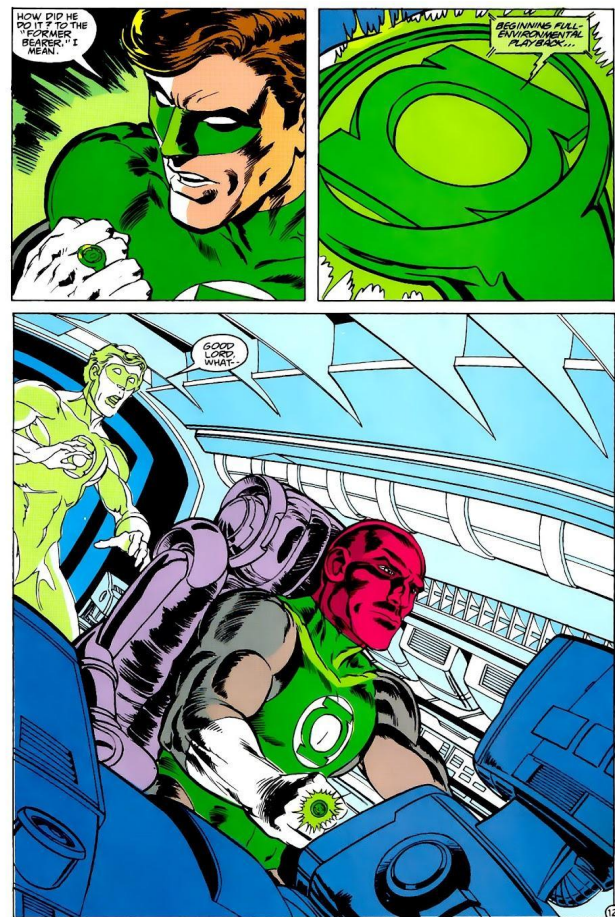
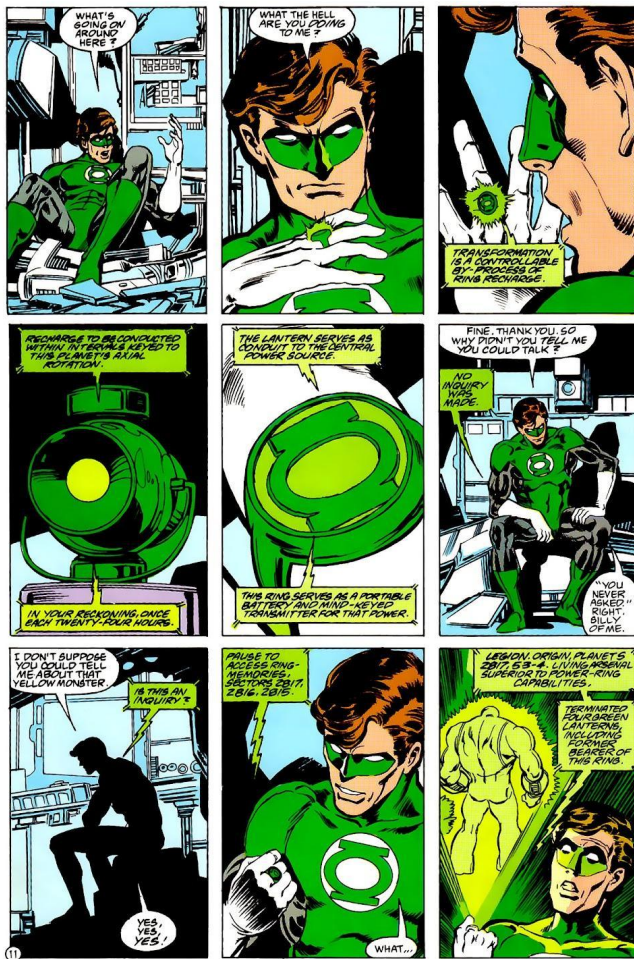


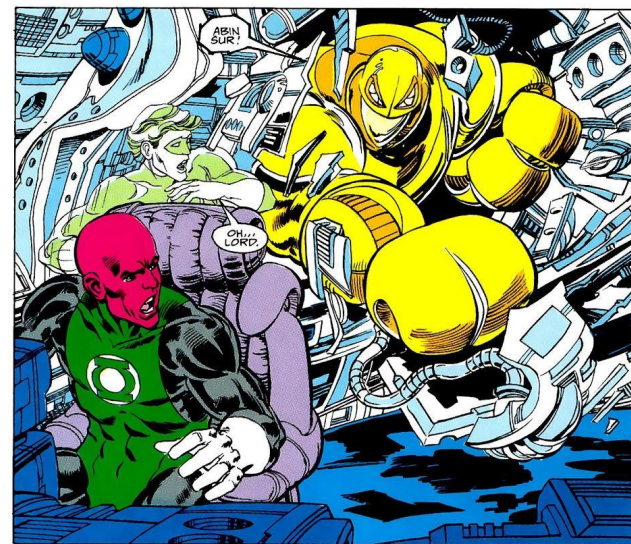
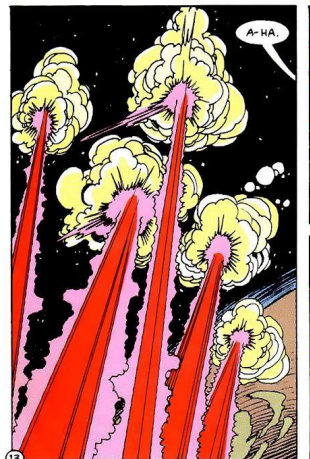


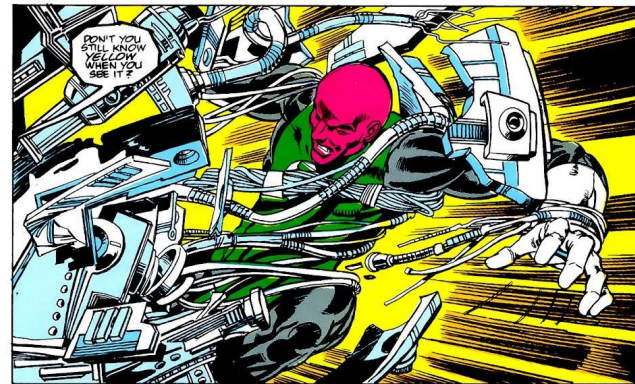


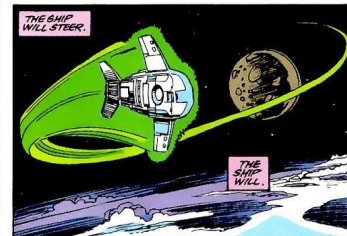
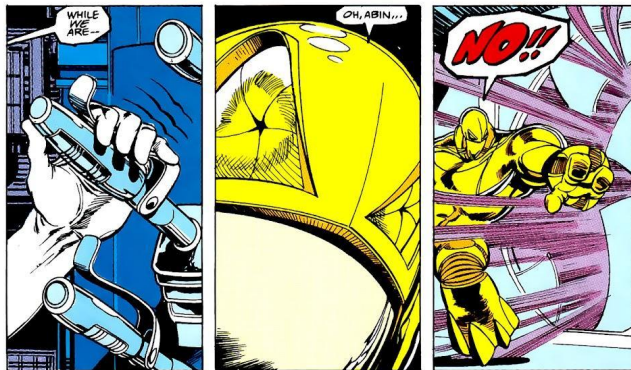


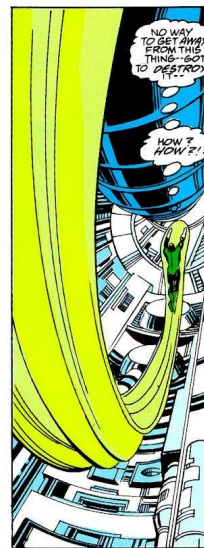
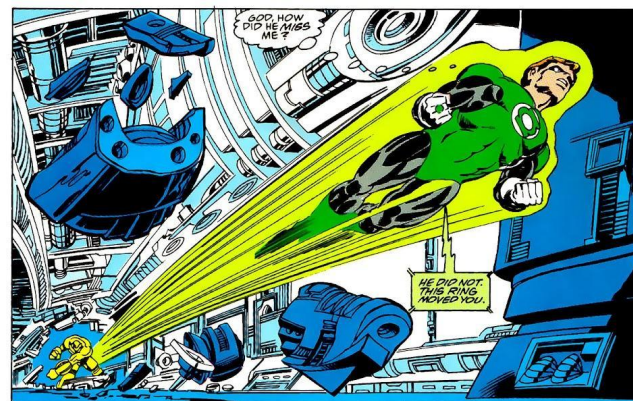


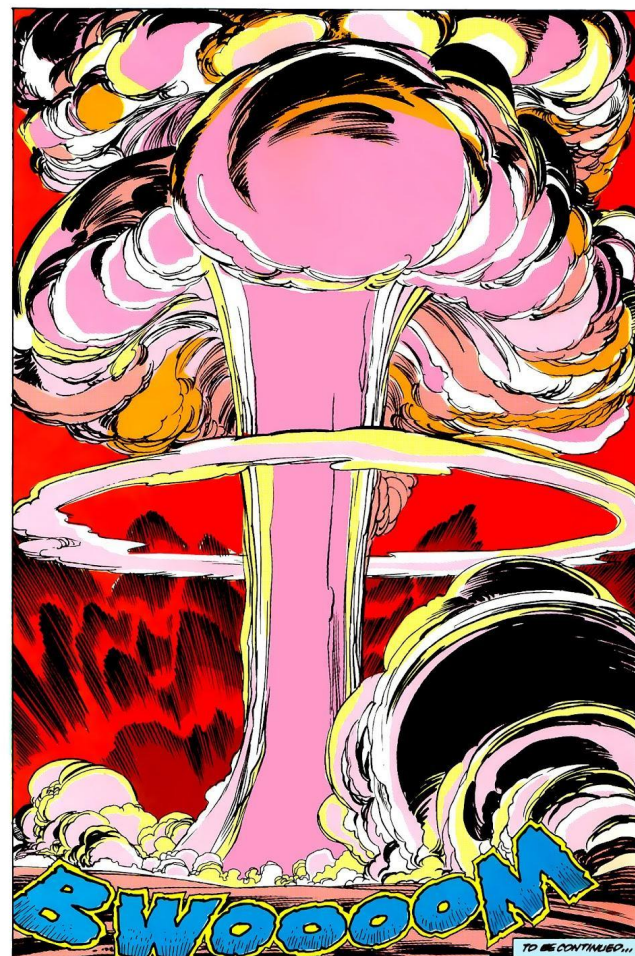














GREEN LANTERN

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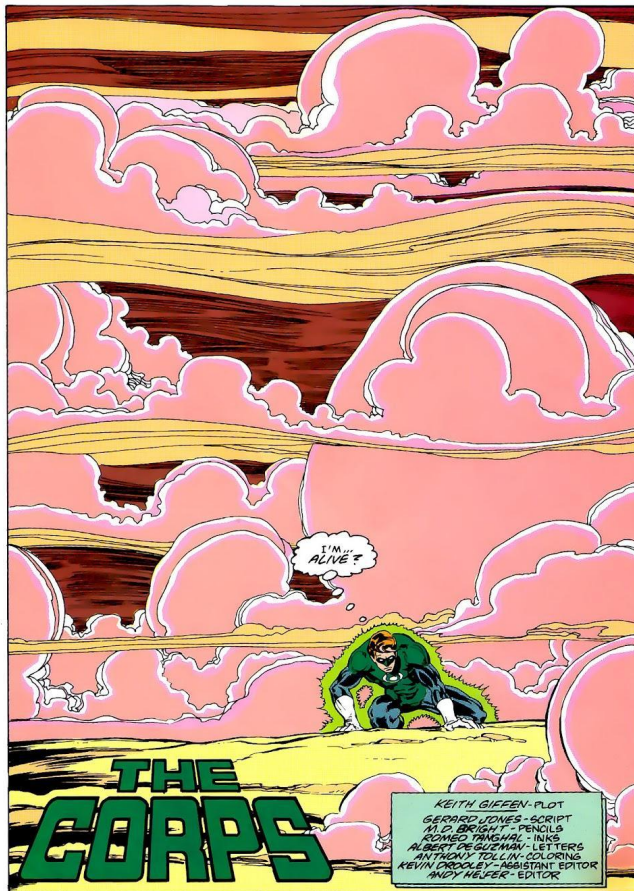
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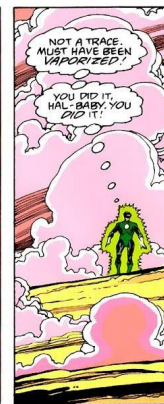
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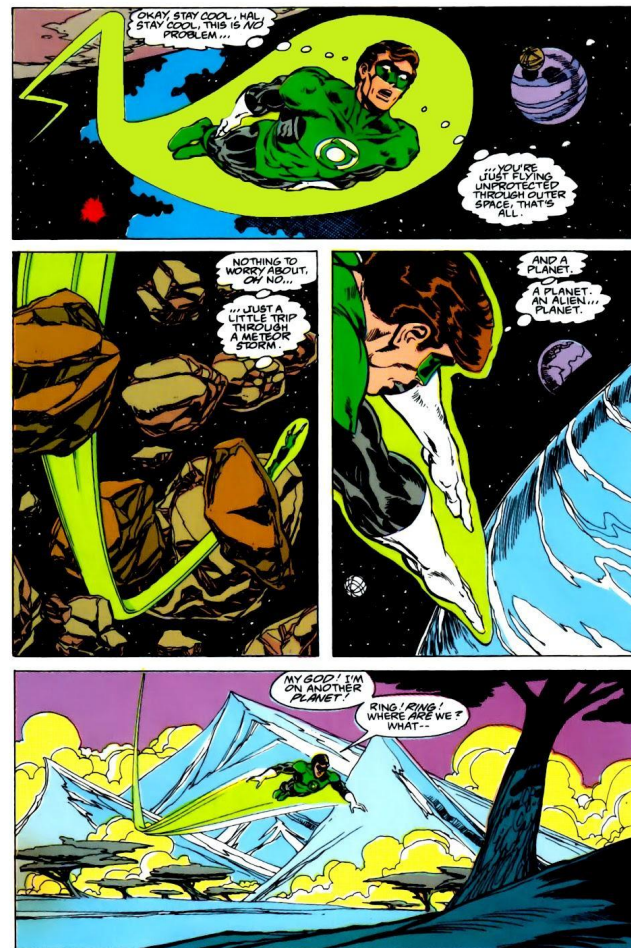
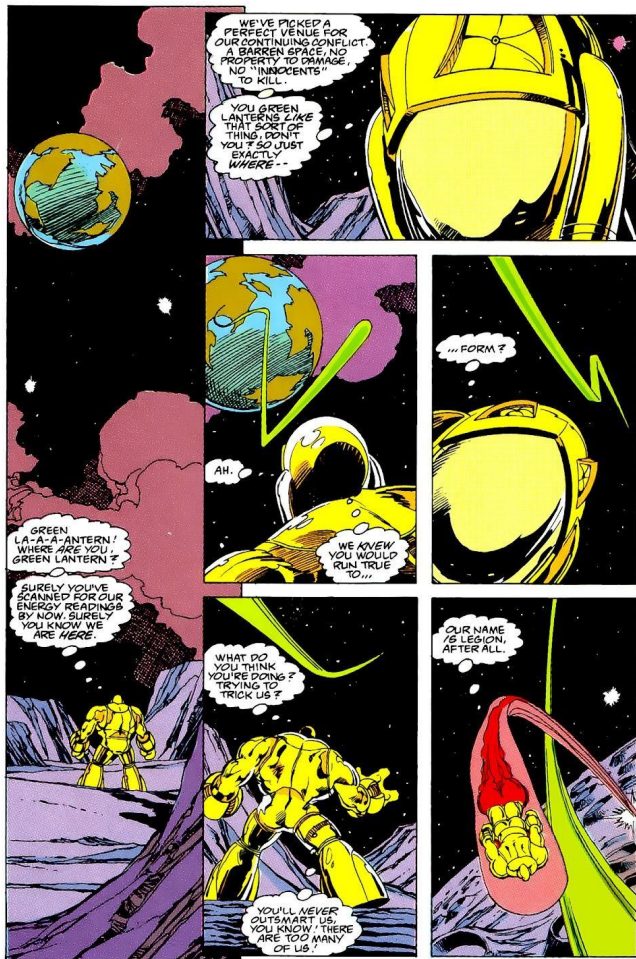


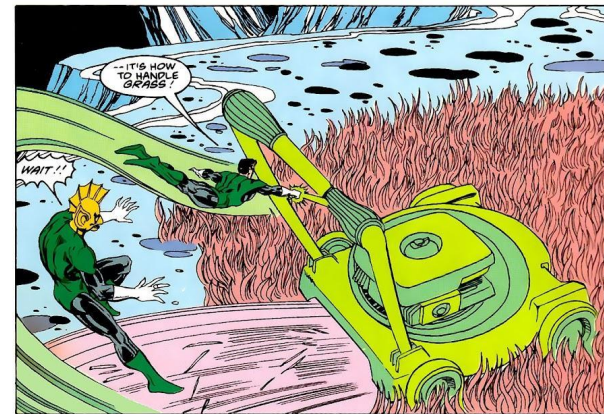
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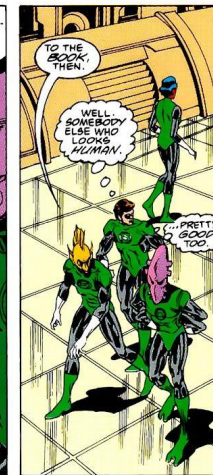
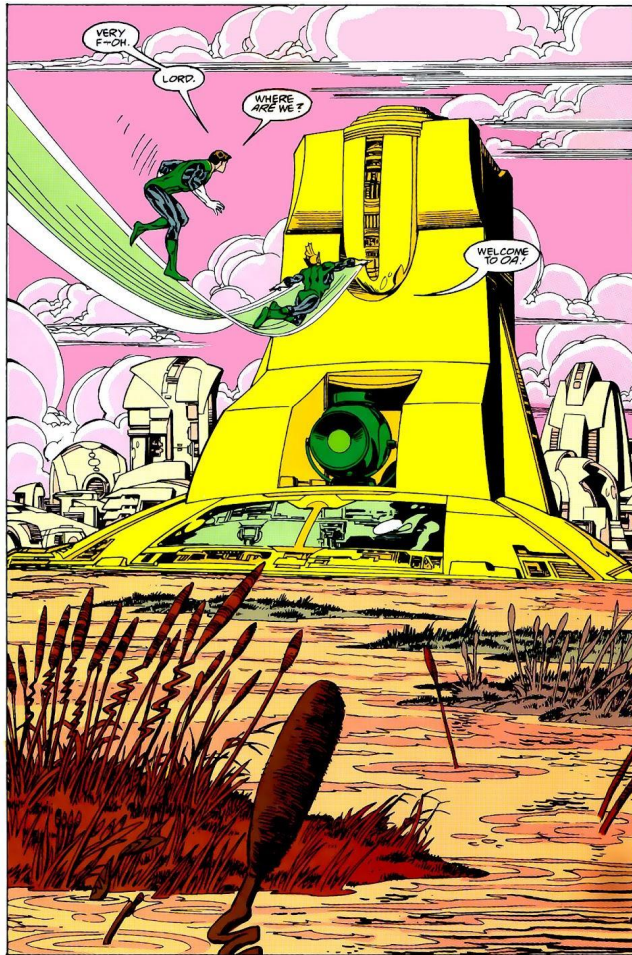


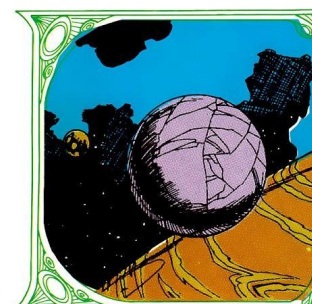
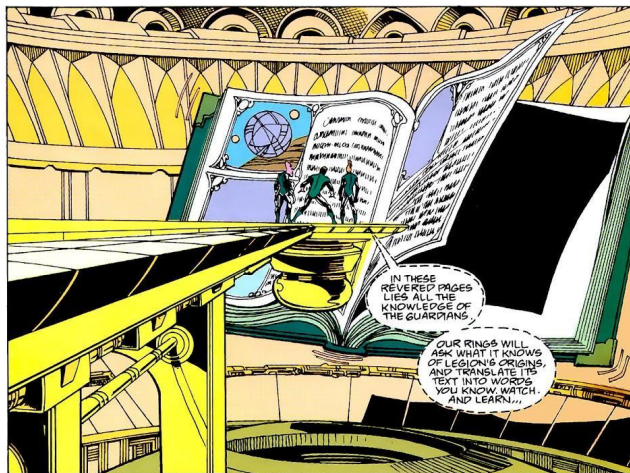
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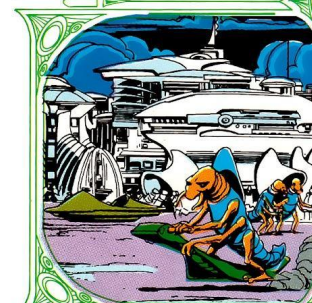






The 1,087th Achievement

In Sector 407, at the parting of the Greater Magellanic Clouds, a small planet orbits a brown dwarf star. Its natives call it Tchh-Tchh. It is now a sealed world. Give praise to the Guardians.



The Tchh-Tchhii were a sentient and highly technological species, bound tightly together in hive societies. Like most hive creatures, they were relentlessly expansionist, spreading across their planet in a flurry of migrations and wars. Nomadism, combat, and piracy are innate to their being.

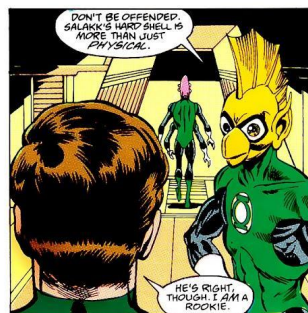
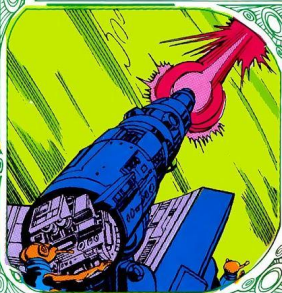


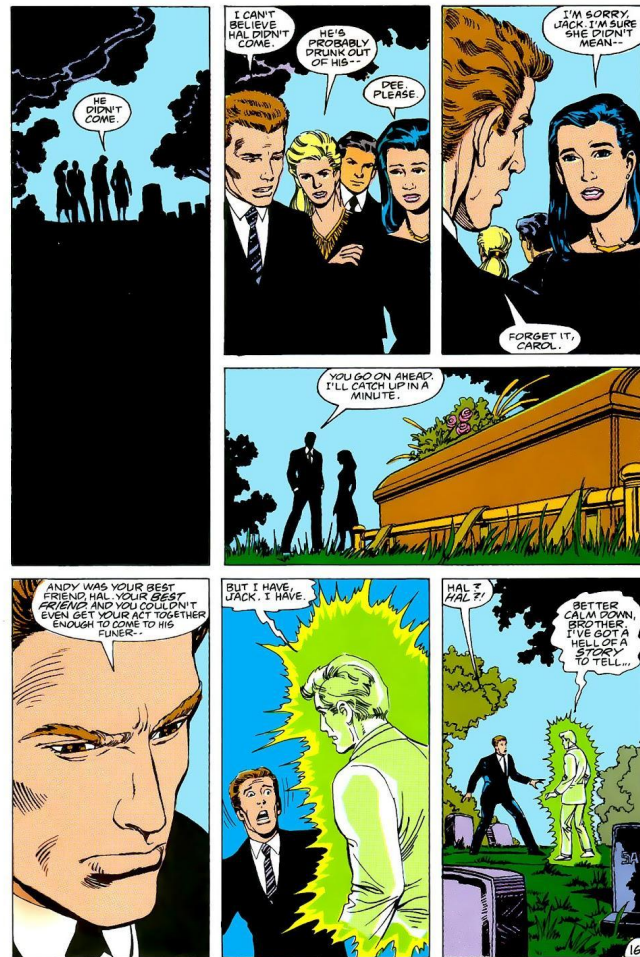
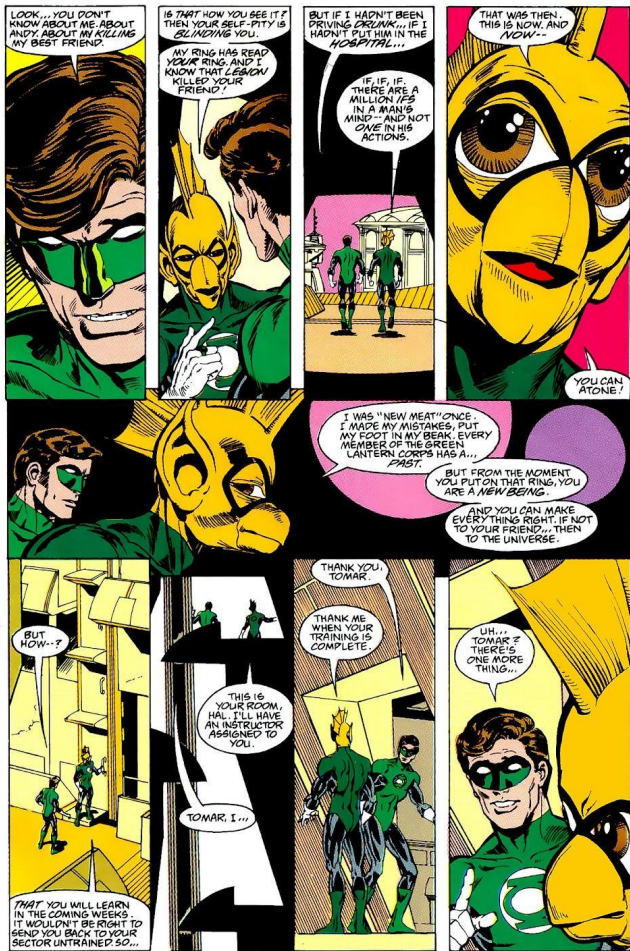
After millennia of bloodshed, every hive had been slaughtered but one, the final victor in the wars for control of Tchh-Tchh. But peace did not follow conquest. The Tchh-Tchhii turned their aggressive urges outward, blazing a trail of plunder and destruction across the galaxies.

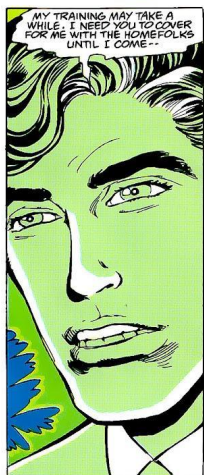
The Guardians saw this, and the Guardians knew it must stop. Appeasement was impossible. Strategic containment would prove ephemeral. The hive of Tchik-Tchik demanded expansion. Yet, the Guardians would not obliterate the Tchik-Tchik, for the dictates of Order and Justice do not permit genocide.

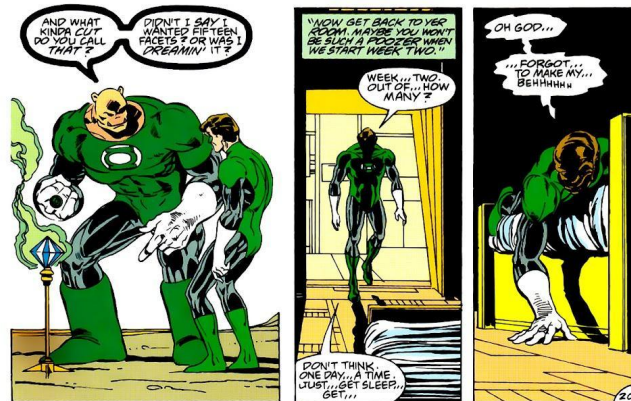
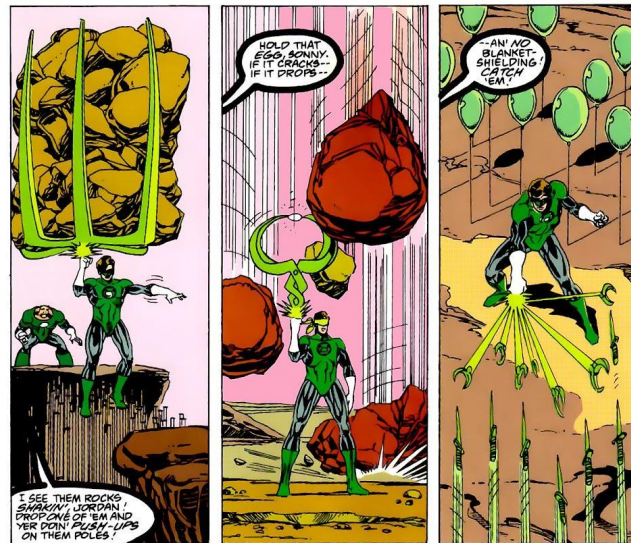
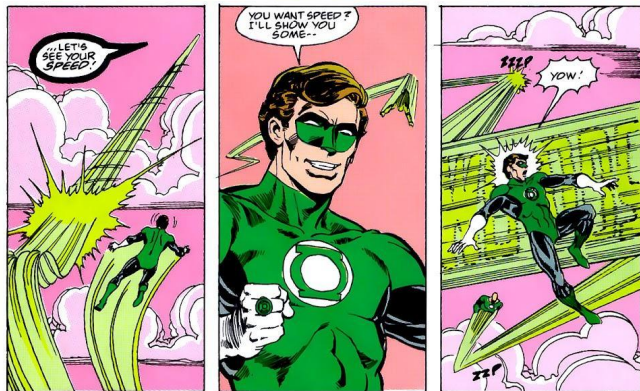
The Guardians sent their nascent Green Lantern Corps to drive the Tchik-Tchik back from their conquests, back to their home planet. When all the surviving Tchik-Tchik were contained there, the Green Lantern Corps erected a field of energy through which no vessels or bodies might pass.

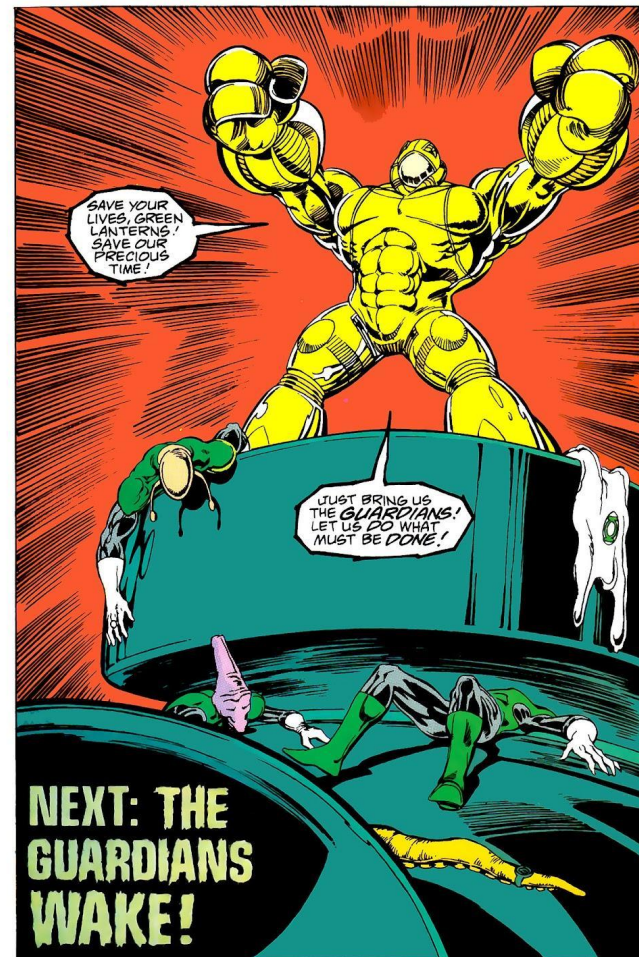
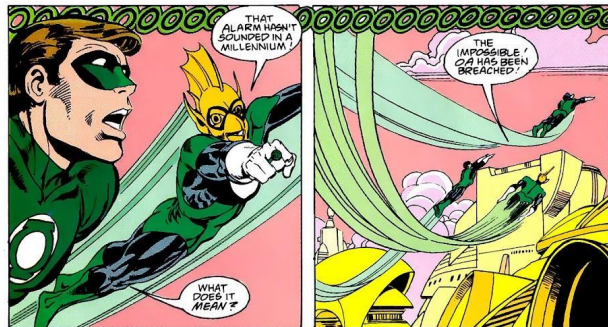
For generations, the hive spent its energies on escaping the field. But at last their assaults on the green power came to an end. The Tchik-Tchik accepted their lot as a home-bound and peaceable species. And so, the Guardians ended this threat to the universal order. Give praise to the Guardians.











**NEXT: THE
GUARDIANS
WAKE!**



GREEN LANTERN



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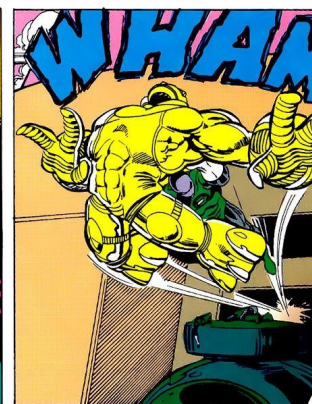
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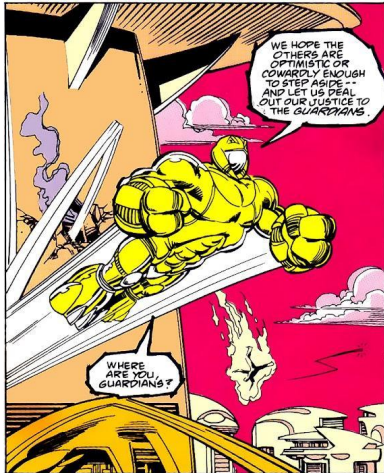


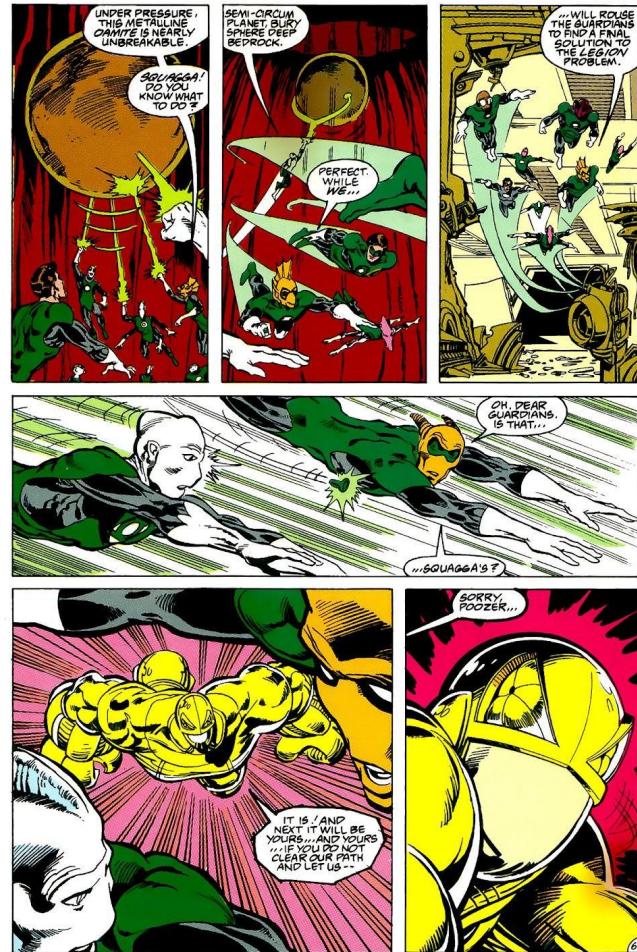
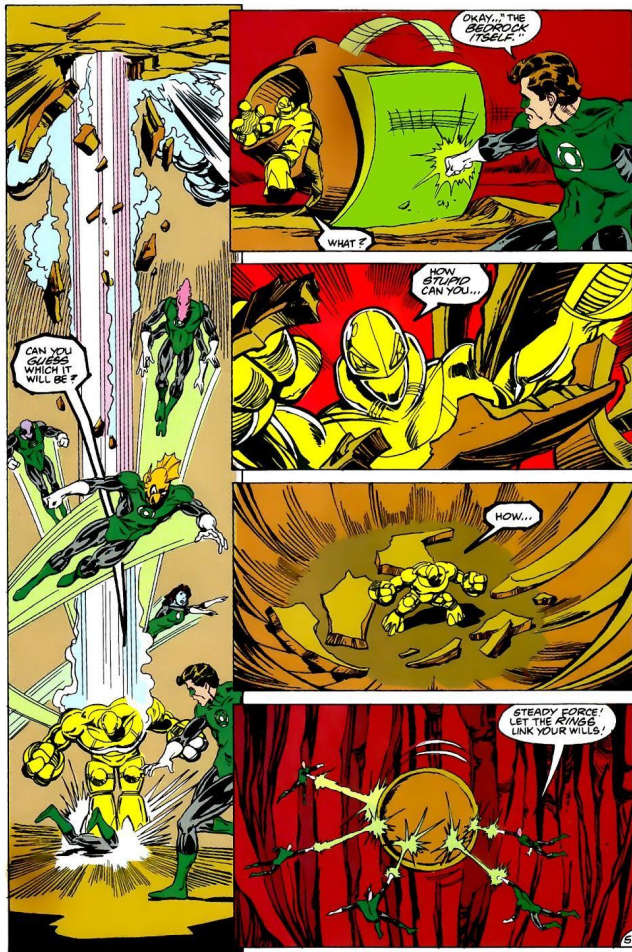
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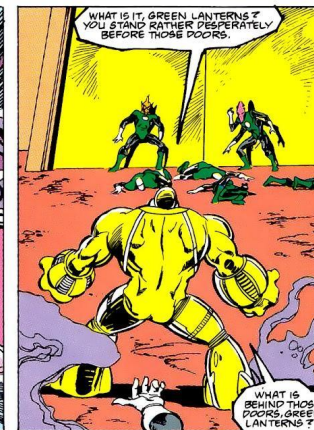
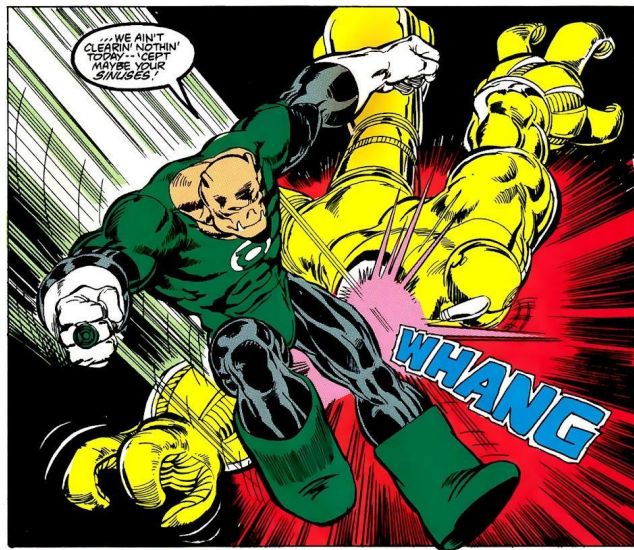


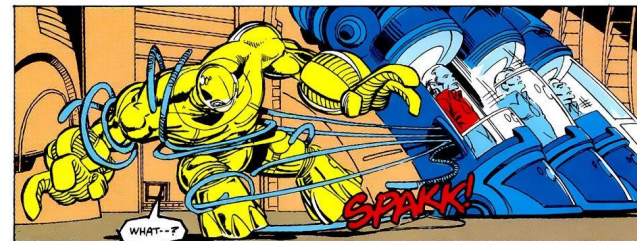
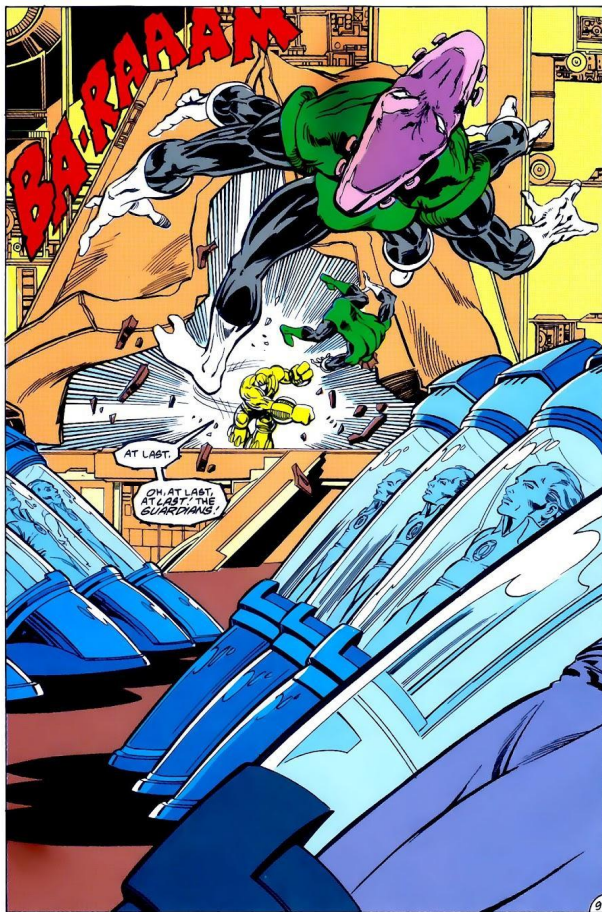
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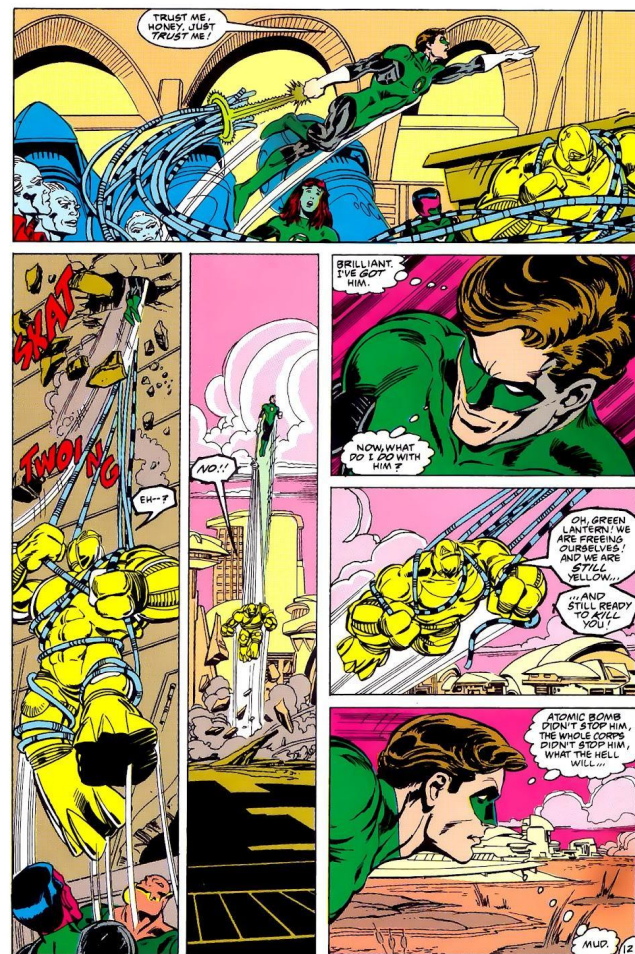
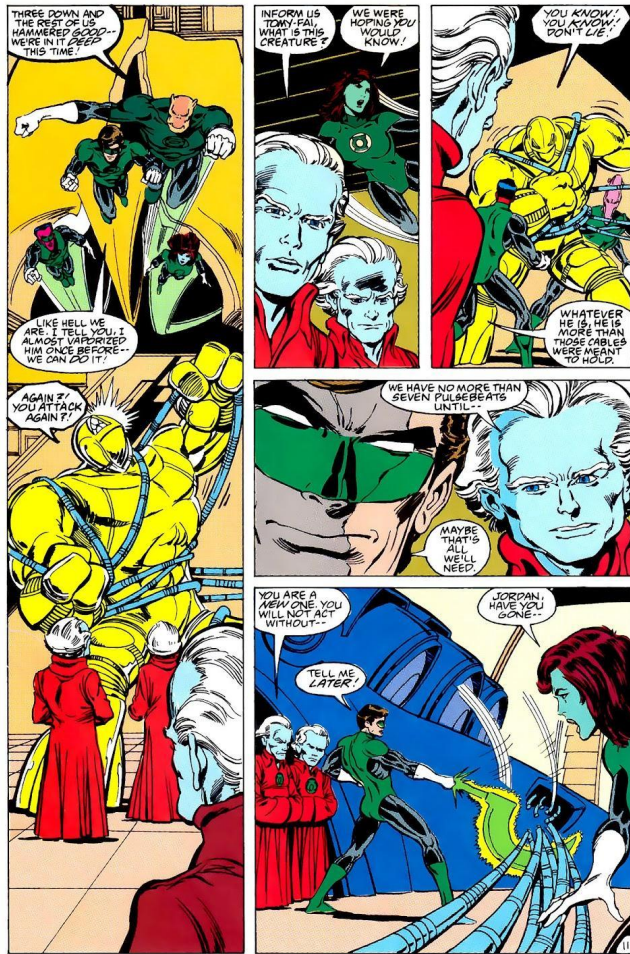


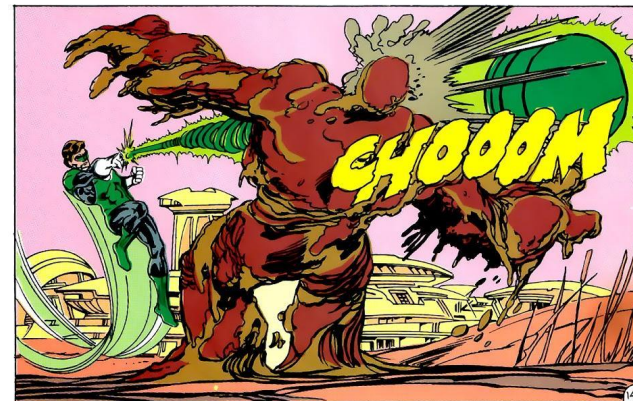
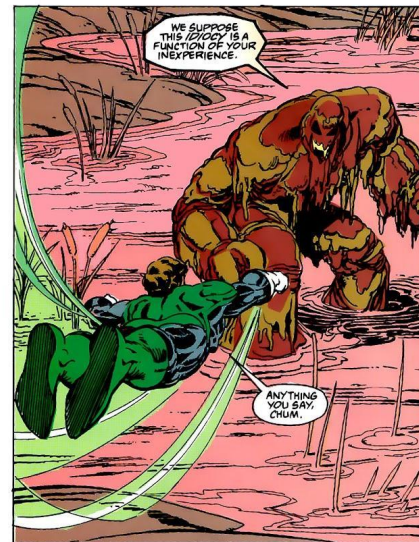
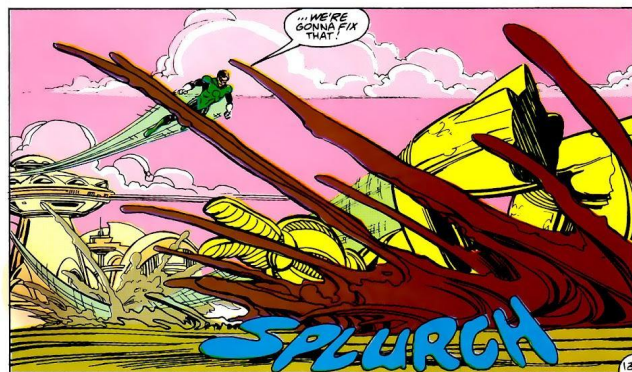
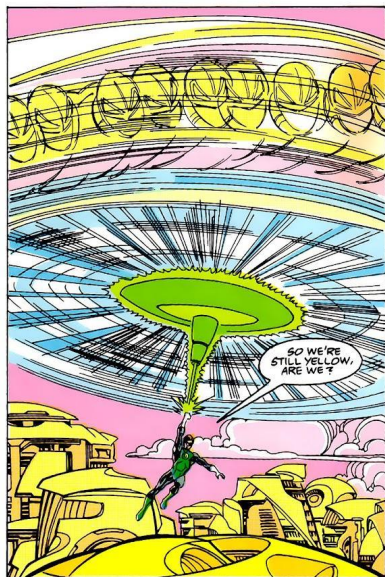


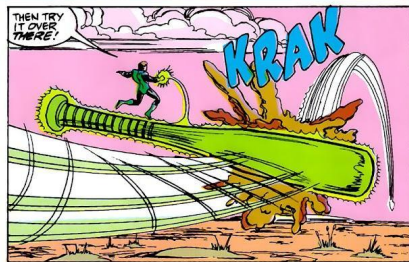


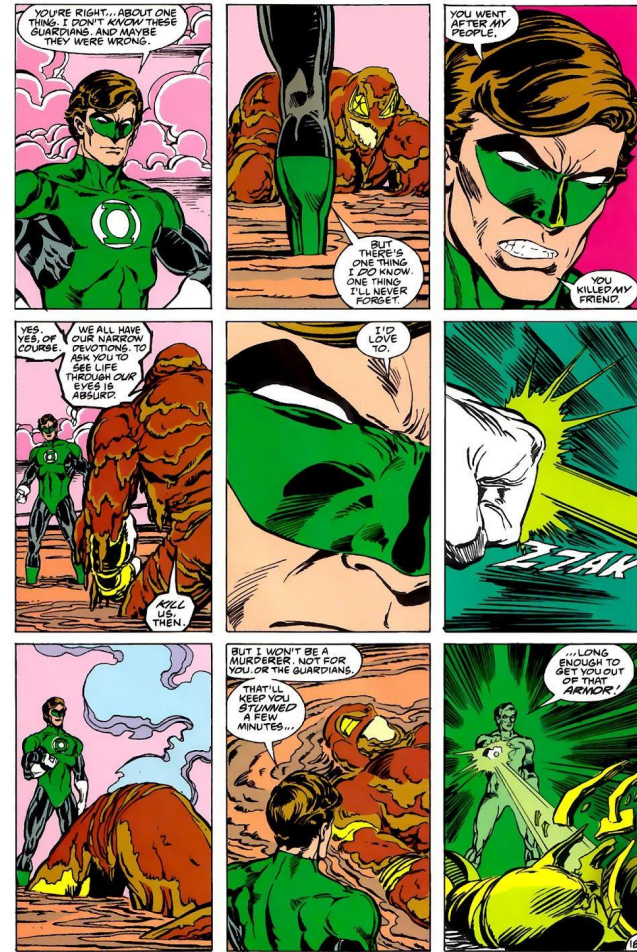
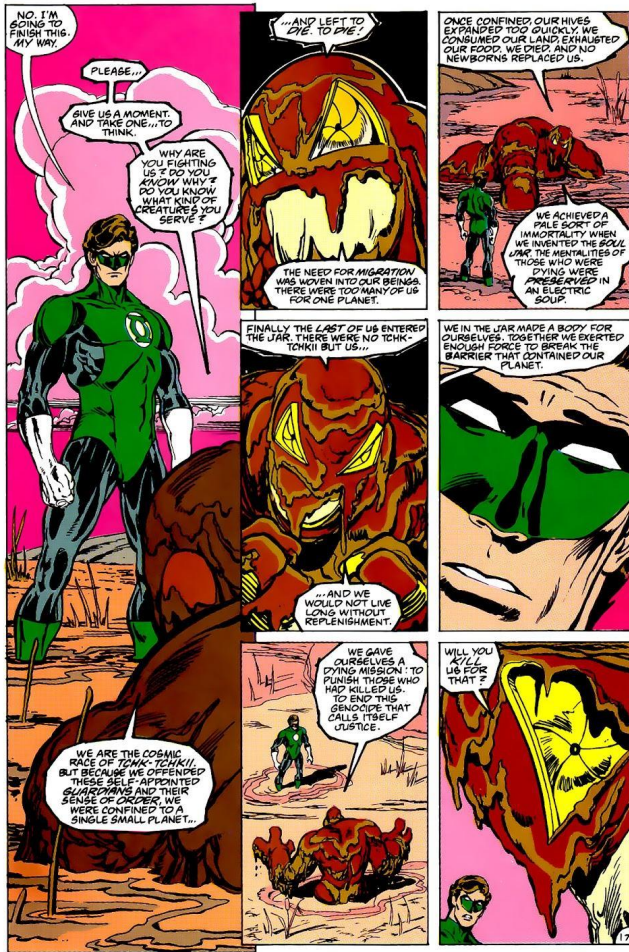


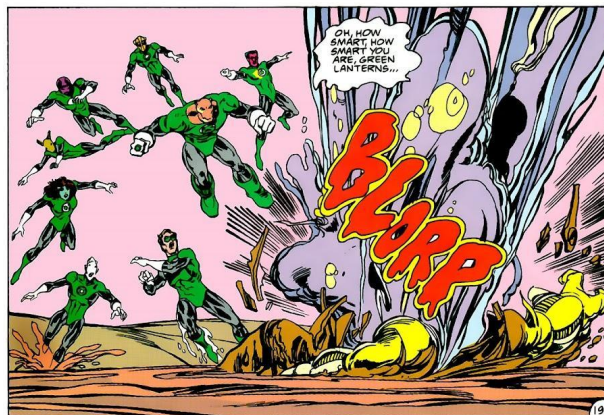


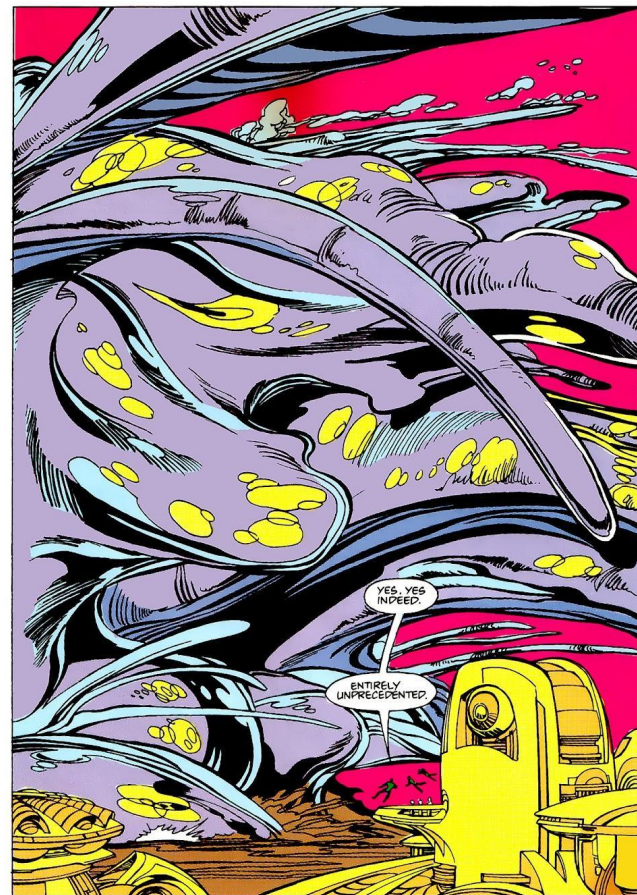
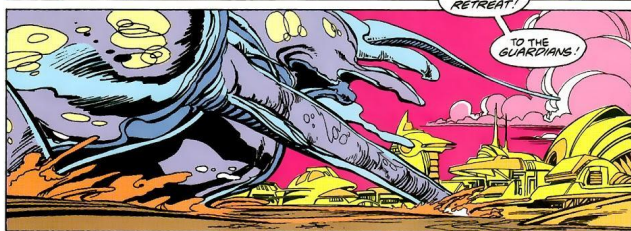
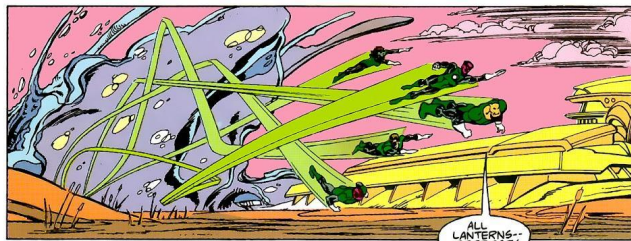












NEXT: THE CLEAN UP.



GREEN LANTERN



6

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UK 50p



EMERALD DAWN



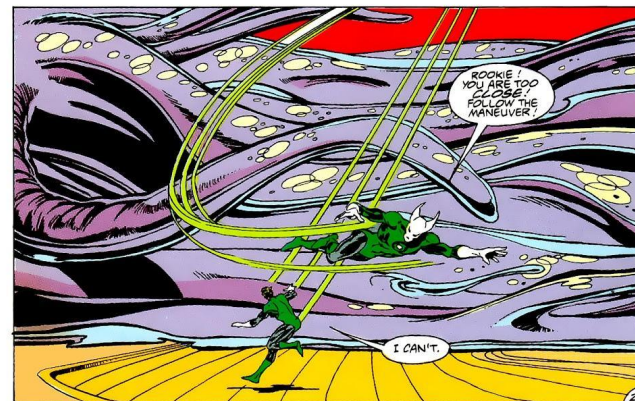
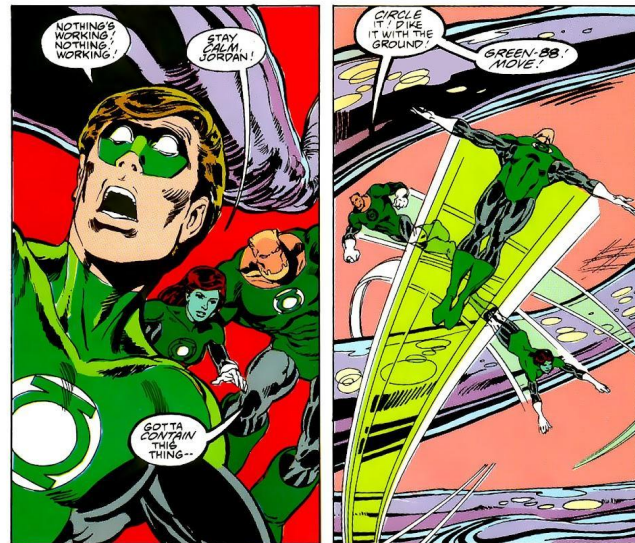
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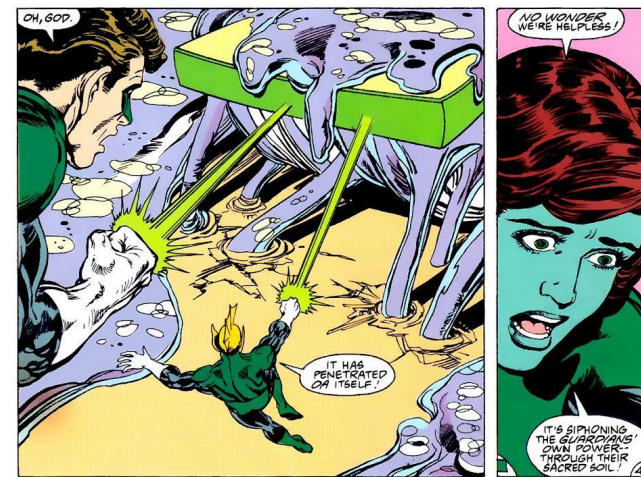
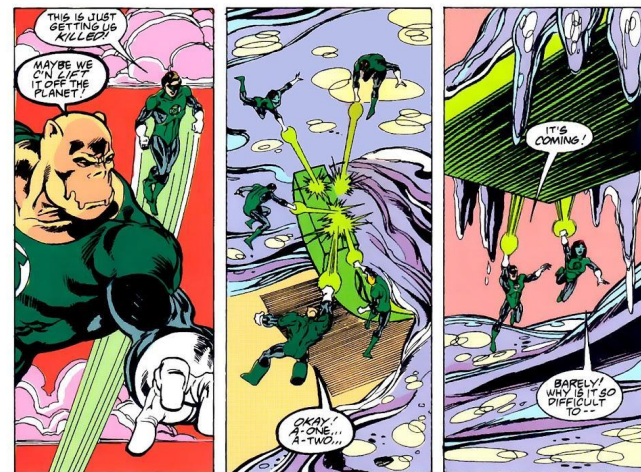
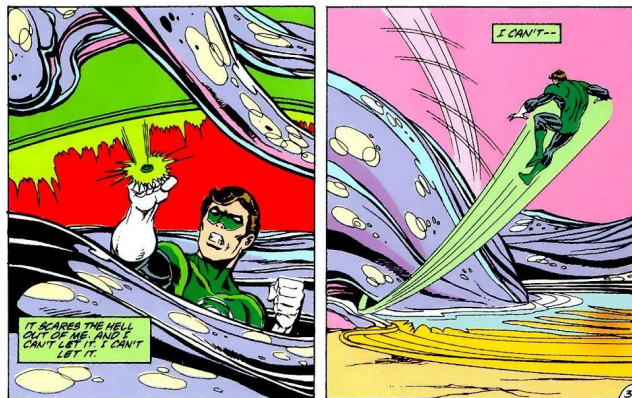
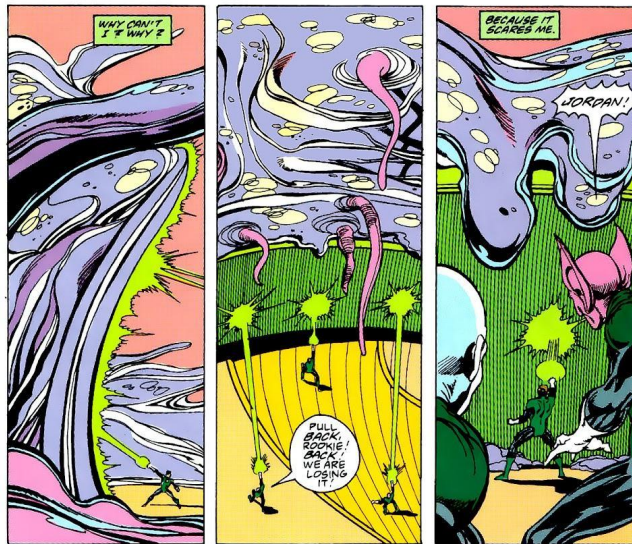


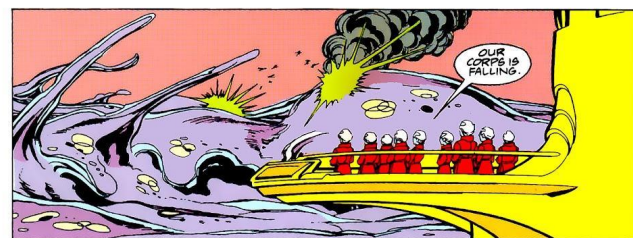
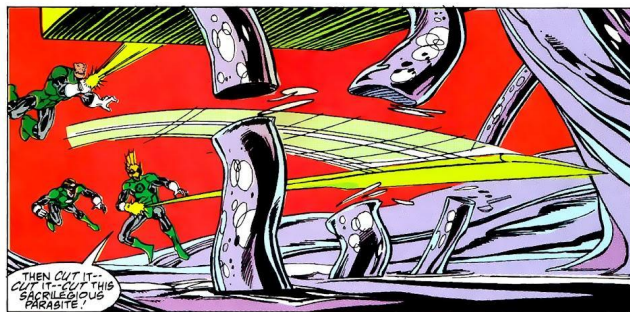
KEITH GIFFEN, GERARD JONES, M. D. BRIGHT, ROMEO TINAGUAL, ALBERT DE GUZMAN, ANTHONY TOLLIN, DOOLEY HELFER
PLOT DIALOGUE PENCILS INKS LETTERS COLORS EDITOR

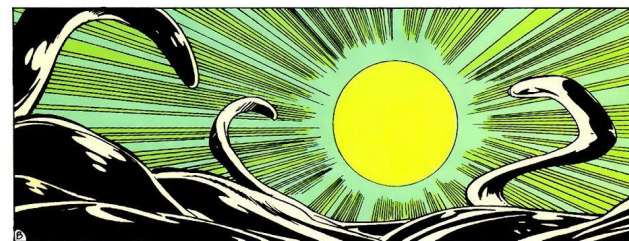
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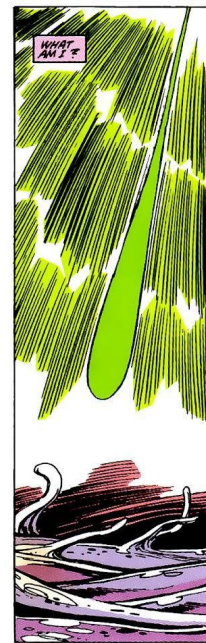
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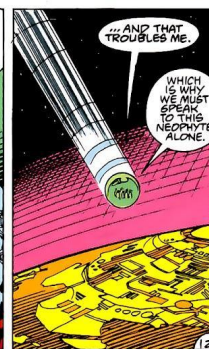
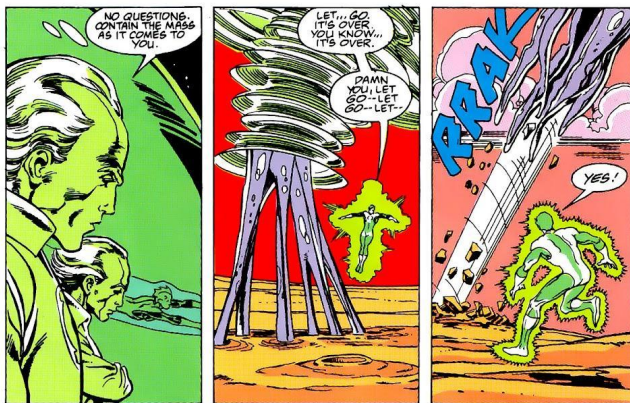














"...RETURNING IT TO TCHK-TCHK. ITS NOW-EMPTY CRADLE..."

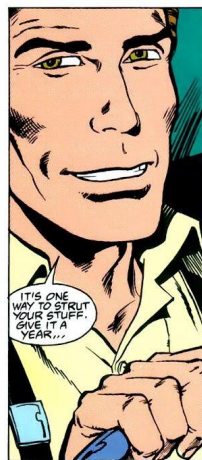
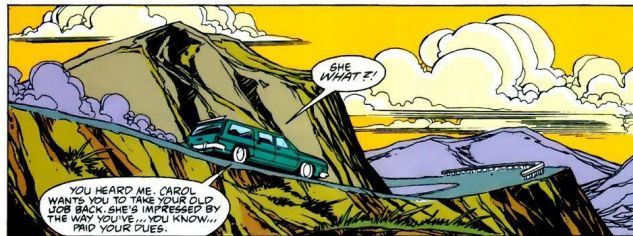
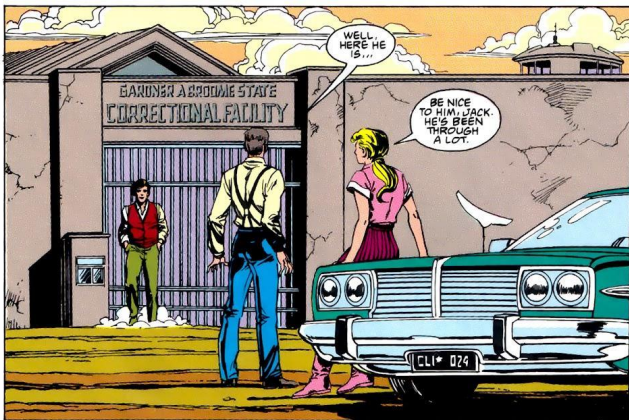


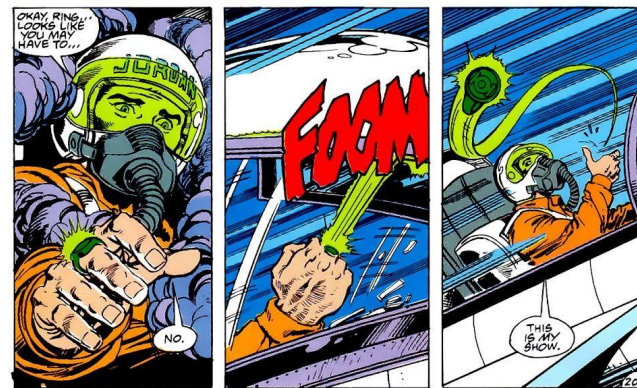
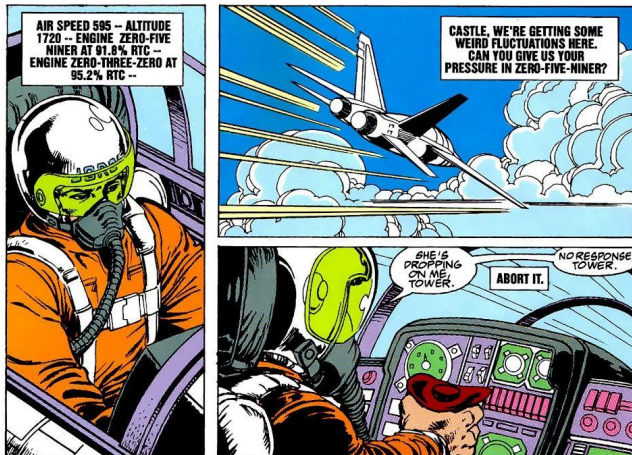
"...THERE TO LET THE CYCLE OF EVOLUTION BEGIN ANEW..."



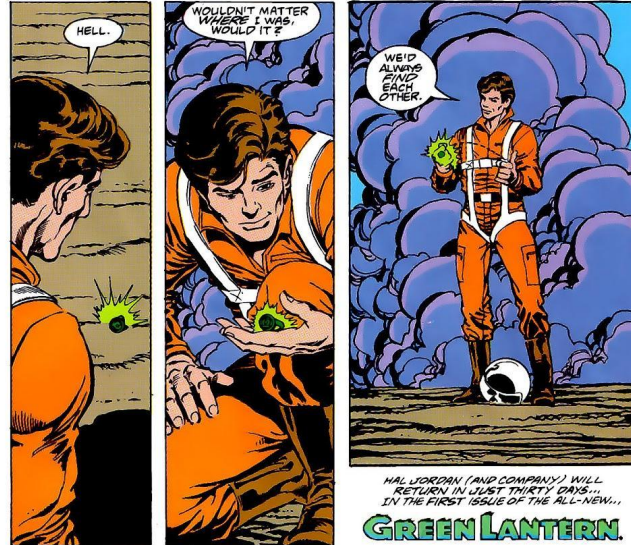
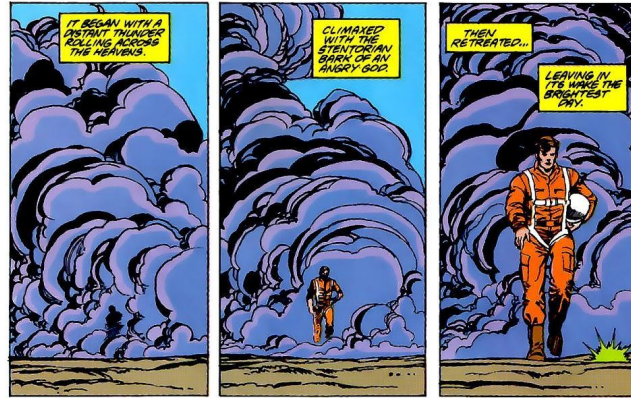
"...AND HOPE THAT THIS TIME LIFE ASSUMES A MORE BEING FORM, WHICH WILL NOT REQUIRE SUCH HARSH CONTAINMENT..."











MARVEL
1

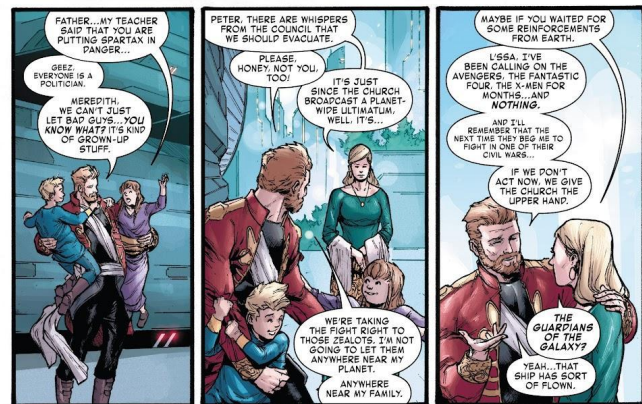
ETHAN SACKS • ROBERT GILL • ANDRES MOSSA

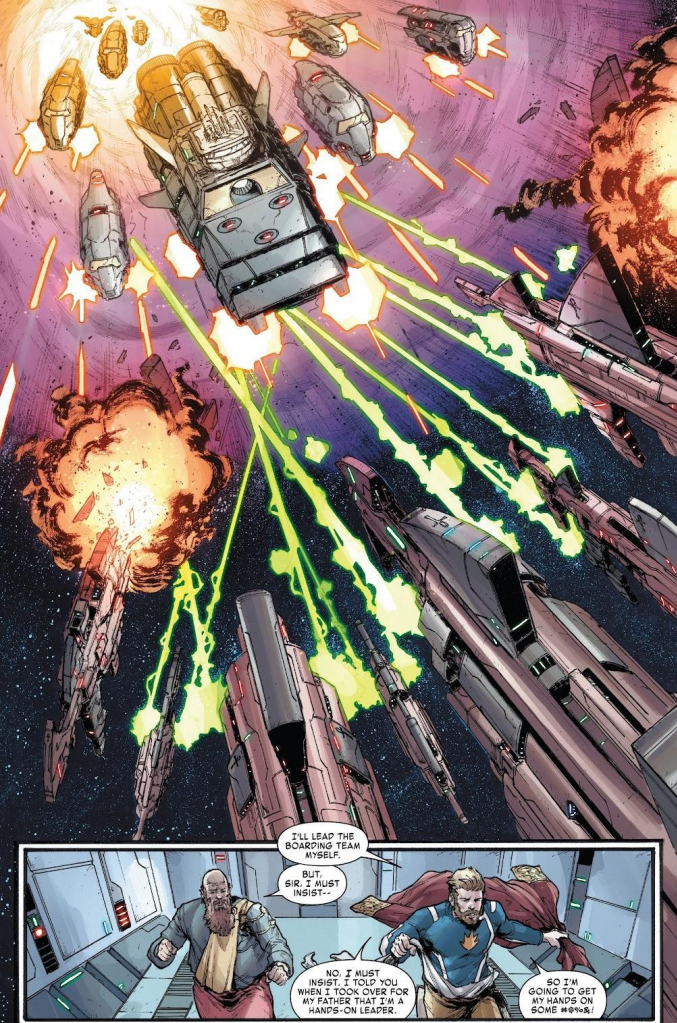
OLD MAN QUILL



PARENTAL
ADVISORY







STAN'S SOAPBOX!

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WHO SAYS A COMIC BOOK HAS TO BE GOOFY!
NOW ON SALE AT BRAND NEW TECHNIQUE



STAN LEE
FOREVER

John O'Donovan
Tampa, Fla.
John Flanagan
Baltimore, Md.
David Halligan
New York, N. Y.
Richard O'Neil
Chicago, Ill.
Denny Gilleland
Pittsburgh, Pa.





LOOKS LIKE YOUR CRUSADE IS ONE FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS, MATRIARCH. AS IN, IT'S HISTORY.

DID YOU REALLY THINK I'D LET YOU CHASE MY PEOPLE OFF OUR OWN PLANET?



EMPEROR QUILL IS IT NOWADAYS, PETER? YOU HAVE SHOWN SUCH A GREAT MILITARY MIND TODAY.

A PRE-EMPTIVE ATTACK? TELEPATHY? IMAGINE IF THAT MIND WERE NOT SO CLOSED.



THANK YOU, IT'S NICE TO HAVE MY MILITARY GENIUS APPRECIATED BY SOMEONE.

...WAIT, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT "CLOSED" THING?

IF ONLY YOU HAD TAKEN OUR MERCY AND EVACUATED YOUR PLANET BEFORE OUR GOD ARRIVED.



OH, IS YOUR "GOD" HERE? IT'S SORT OF HARD TO TELL WITH THOSE INVISIBLE SPIRITS.



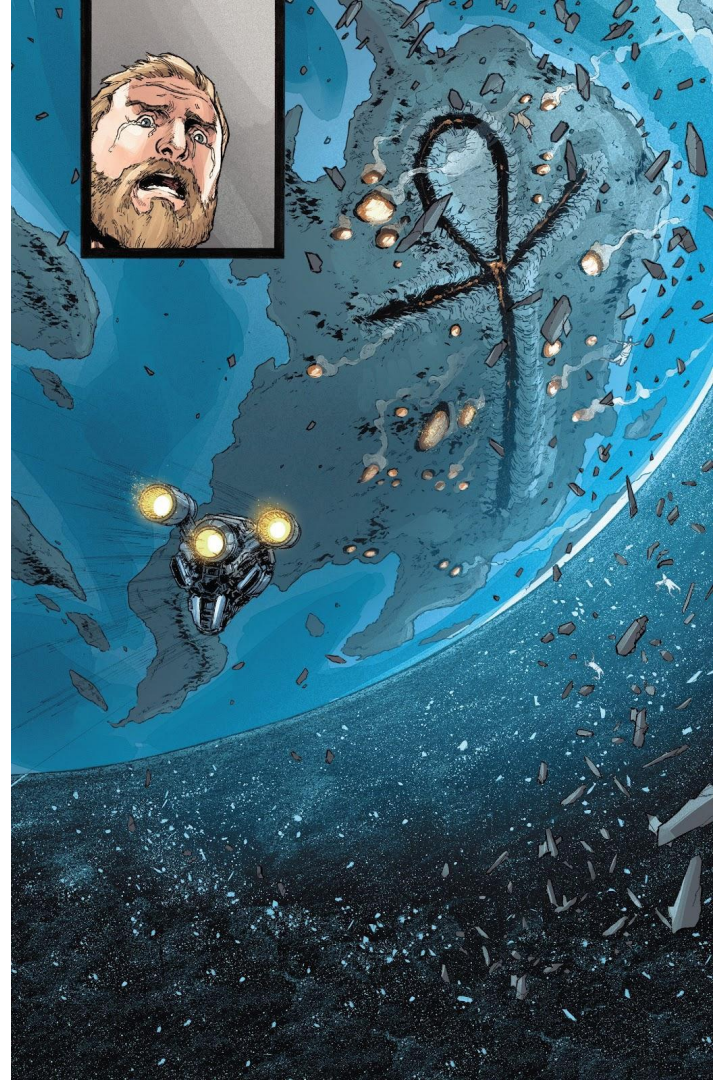
OF COURSE HE'S NOT HERE, HE'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SYSTEM, UNLEASHING HIS WRATH ON A PLANET WHOSE FORCES ARE... ABSENT... TO DEFEND IT.

SPARTAN FELL AN HOUR AGO.



"DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE HAD A LOOK FOR YOURSELF."

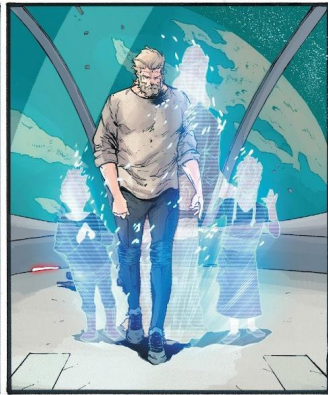
"NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, KING QUILL, I MUST RETURN TO MY HEBTATIONS. I WILL PRAY YOU FIND PEACE FOR YOUR IMPENDING SUFFERING."



FORMER SITE OF THE
PLANET SPARTAN.
NOW.



DAMN
IT.

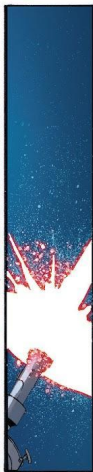














OLD MAN QUILL



"NOBODY'S FAULT BUT MINE"

WRITER...//..ETHAN SACKS

ARTIST...//..ROBERT GILL

COLORIST...//..ANDRES MOSSA

LETTERER...//..UC'S JOE CARAMAGNA

COVER ARTIST...//..JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS...//..IBAN COELLO &

MARTE GRACIA; ANDREA SORRENTINO;

JIM STARLIN & RICHARD ISANOVE [HIDDEN GEM];

KATIE COOK

EDITOR...//..MARK BASSO

EDITOR IN CHIEF...//..C.B. CEBULSKI ♦ CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER...//..JOE QUESADA

PRESIDENT...//..DAN BUCKLEY ♦ EXECUTIVE PRODUCER...//..ALAN FINE

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NEXT: "IN THE COURT OF THE CRIMSON KING"



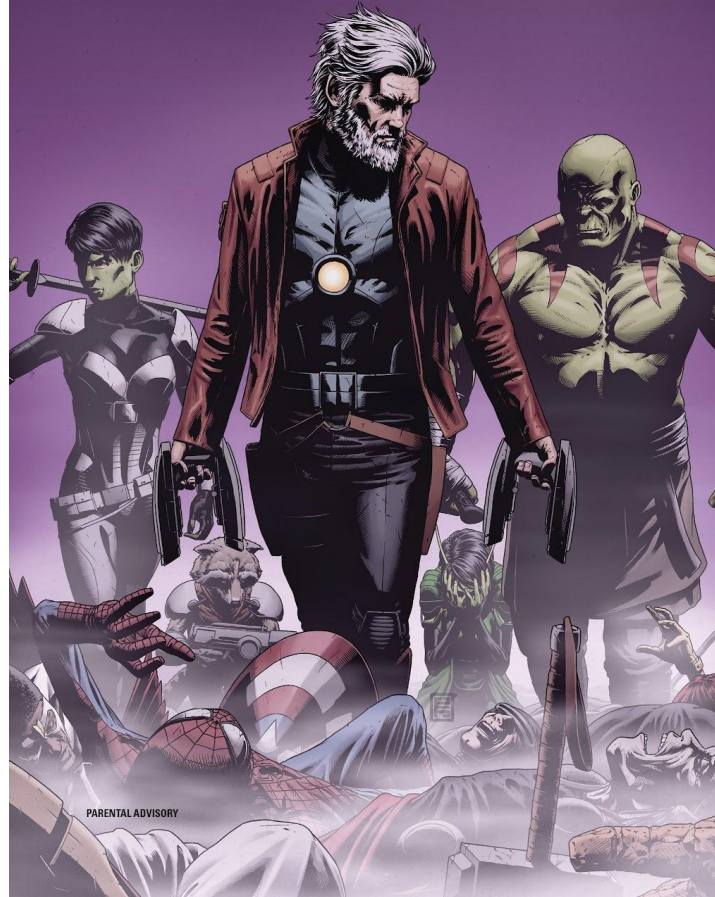
VARIANT COVER BY ROD REIS

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ROBERT GILL
ANDRES MOSSA

OLD MAN QUILL



PARENTAL ADVISORY

OLD MAN QUILL



"IN THE COURT OF THE CRIMSON KING"

PETER QUILL—BORN ON EARTH TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND ALIEN FATHER—SET OUT FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE AMONG THE STARS AS STAR-LOD. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY AND SPENT YEARS FIGHTING AND DEFENDING WITH THE RAGTAG GROUP OF MISFITS.

EVENTUALLY, LIFE TOOK HIM DOWN A NEW PATH. PETER TOOK OVER FROM HIS FATHER AS EMPEROR OF THE PLANET SPARTAX, CHOSE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SWASHBUCKLING ANTICS OF HIS PAST, STARTED A FAMILY, AND HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH THE GUARDIANS.

BUT THAT WAS A LONG, LONG TIME AGO. WHEN HIS STRATEGIC MISCALCULATION LEFT HIS PLANET UNDEFENDED, PETER FOUND SPARTAX DESTROYED AND NO ONE TO BLAME BUT HIMSELF. LIVING IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE FOR DECADES, PETER HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SPUR HIMSELF TO ANY KIND OF ACTION EXCEPT DAYS SPENT DRINKING TO FORGET WHEN HE CAN'T STAY IN CRYO-SLEEP. BUT THEN THE ESTRANGED SURVIVING GUARDIANS REACHED OUT TO HIM AND PULLED HIM INTO ONE LAST MISSION—AND CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION: RETURN TO EARTH IN AN ATTEMPT TO STOP THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH, THE SAME GROUP THAT DESTROYED SPARTAX.

ONLY EARTH'S HAD A ROUGH TIME SINCE PETER'S LAST SEEN IT. THE SUPER VILLAINS ORGANIZED 45 YEARS AGO UNDER THE RED SKULL AND TOOK OVER, AND NOW THE REMAINING WASTELANDS MAY BE IN DIRE NEED OF SOME SUPER-HEROICS...

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

LETTERER...**UC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

COVER ARTIST...**JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER**

VARIANT COVER ARTIST...**ROD REIS**

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PRESIDENT...**DAN BUCKLEY** ♦ EXECUTIVE PRODUCER...**ALAN FINE**

Note: The events of this story take place after OLD MAN HAWKEYE and the original OLD MAN LOGAN.



STAN'S SOAPBOX • JULY 1967

STAN'S SOAPBOX

This is as good a place as any to thank you once more for being the most wonderful fans any publishing company ever had! If Marvel is on top of the heap, it's your support that's put us there! If Marvel gives you the type of mags you want, it's your letters that have told us how! And, if Marvel occasionally comes up with a clinker, go hang your head, hero! Whatever we are, you've made us! We've had a lot of laughs together, and a lot of excitement—and the best is still ahead! So face front, frantic one, Marvel's on the march—and we're not taking a step without you! On behalf of the entire batty Bullpen, to True Believers everywhere—we'll never let you down, 'cause you're the ever-lovin' greatest!

WHO SAYS A COMIC BOOK HAS TO BE GOOSTY?

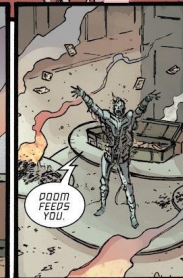
NOT BRAND
ECHO



STAN LEE
FOREVER

Face.
And, Cal,
once more
binding adve
ASTONISH #39
double peril, to
the mountain
credible Hulk an
world of mystery
SGT. FURY #44
did it! Learn ho
Commandos es
nickname—on t
enemy fire! Wa
MARVEL CO
#10: The fra
Jolly Green G
Man—and the
Is this any w
bet it is, tip
FANTASY M
of the origin
first appear
ness of Cap
wonder tale
MARVEL T
—and the
bargain the
Arcade!







"DOOM WILL
LEAD US ALL--
KZZTT--TO THE
PROMISED LAND."

THE WASTELANDS.



NEED...
TO...FIND...
WATER...

GEEZ, WILL YOU STOP
YOUR WHINING? YOU
DON'T SEE ME FLASKIN'
COMPLAINING ABOUT
BEING TIRED!

NOT MUCH
FARTHER, BUT
WE HAVE TO BE
CAREFUL.

TOWN'S
NOT SAFE
NO MORE.

WAIT!
YOU DON'T
KNOW IF
THERE'S
ANY--



IT
APPEARS
WE HAVE COME
ALL THIS WAY
TO SAVE A
PLANET--

TO DEFEY
DOOM IS TO
DEFEY
LIFE



--THAT
IS ALREADY
LOST.

WELL, IT'S A TRAGEDY
FOR THIS VILLAGE,
FOR SURE.

BUT THEIR
SACRIFICE MAY
HELP THE REST OF
US LAST A FEW
MORE DAYS.

HAVE SOME
RESPECT!

HEY I
PROMISED TO
BRING YOU TO
A TOWN, AND I
DID THAT!



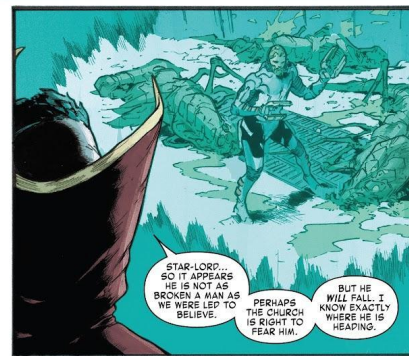












NEXT: "RUN WITH THE PACK"



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OLD MAN QUILL



PETER QUILL—BORN ON EARTH TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND ALIEN FATHER—SET OUT FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE AMONG THE STARS AS STAR-LORD. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY AND SPENT YEARS FIGHTING AND DEFENDING WITH THE RACIST GROUP OF MISFITS.

EVENTUALLY, LIFE TOOK HIM DOWN A NEW PATH. PETER TOOK OVER FROM HIS FATHER AS EMPEROR OF THE PLANET SPARTAN, CHOSE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SWASHBUCKLING ANTICS OF HIS PAST, STARTED A FAMILY, AND HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH THE GUARDIANS.

NOW HE IS SIMPLY...

OLD MAN QUILL

"RUN WITH THE PACK"

WHEN PETER QUILL'S STRATEGIC MISCALCULATION LEFT HIS PLANET UNDEFENDED, THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH DESTROYED SPARTAN. BLAMING HIMSELF, QUILL SPENT YEARS IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE, UNABLE TO SPUR HIMSELF TO ANY ACTION EXCEPT DAYS SPENT DRINKING TO FORGET WHEN HE COULDN'T SLEEP THEM AWAY.

BUT THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY HAVE SPURRED HIM INTO ONE LAST MISSION—AND CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION: RETURN TO EARTH TO RETRIEVE AN OBJECT TO STOP THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH. THE EARTH'S HAD A ROUGH GO OF IT SINCE HE'D LAST BEEN THERE, WITH DOCTOR DOOM CURRENTLY OVERLORD OF THE WASTELANDS THAT REMAIN AFTER THE SUPER VILLAINS TOOK OUT THE PLANET'S HEROES.

FACED WITH INJUSTICE ON SUCH A SCALE, QUILL HAS TAKEN ACTION AGAINST THE OPPRESSORS AS HE ENCOUNTERS THEM ON THE LOCAL LEVEL, GAINING HIM SOME NOTICE IN THE WASTELANDS EVEN AS THE CHURCH PICKS UP HIS TRAIL TO EARTH...

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

LETTERER...**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

COVER ARTIST...**JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER**

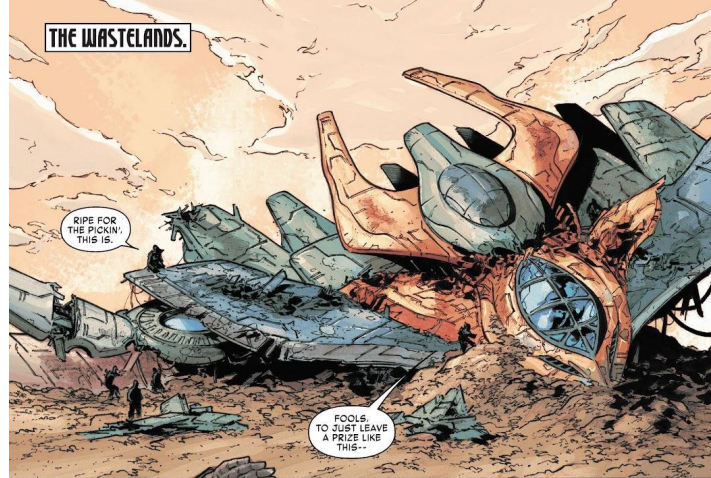
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THE WASTELANDS.













STAN'S SOAPBOX!

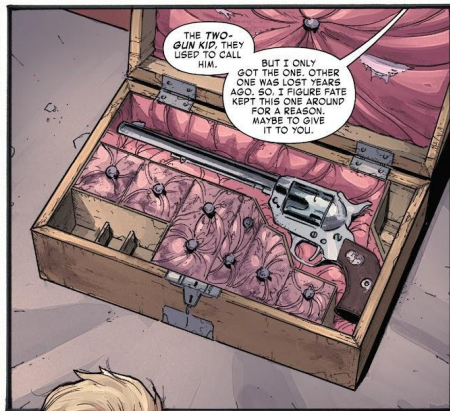
Many Keepers of the Faith have demanded that we take a more definite stand on current problems such as Vietnam, civil rights, and the increase in crime, to name a few. We've a hunch that most Marvel madmen pretty well know where we stand on such matters—and we've long believed that our first duty is to entertain, rather than editorialize. Of course, you've probably noticed that it's not too easy to keep our own convictions out of the soul-stirring sagas we toss at you—but, in our own bumbling fashion, we do try. Anyway, since it's YOU who are the true editors of Marveldom, it's time for another impassioned poll! Should we editorialize more—or less—or keep things in their present fouled-up form? We'll announce the verdict as soon as one of us learns to count so we can tabulate the votes. But, till then, in case you haven't noticed, we've got a little suggestion for you. Namely—THINK MARVEL! That's it, Believer!



STAN LEE
FOREVER



IT'S BEEN IN MY FAMILY SINCE MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDADDY USED TO PATROL THESE PARTS.

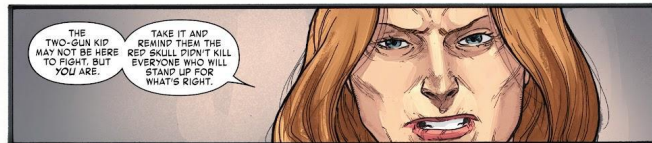


THE TWO-GUN KID. THEY USED TO CALL HIM.

BUT I ONLY GOT THE ONE. OTHER ONE WAS LOST YEARS AGO. SO I FIGURE FATE KEPT THIS ONE AROUND FOR A REASON. MAYBE TO GIVE IT TO YOU.



I...



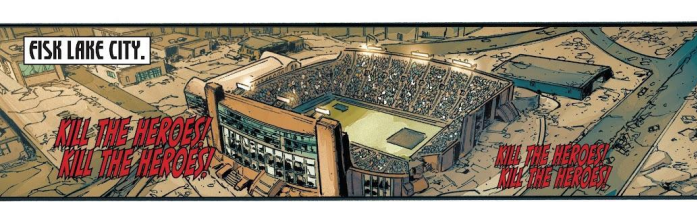
THE TWO-GUN KID MAY NOT BE HERE TO FIGHT, BUT YOU ARE.

TAKE IT AND REMIND THEM THE REP SKULL DIDN'T KILL EVERYONE WHO WILL STAND UP FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.









NEXT: "THE COWBOY WHO
STARTED THE FIGHT"



SEND YOUR NOTES ACROSS THE UNIVERSE TO
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM — AND BE SURE TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!

MARVEL
4

ETHAN SACKS
IBRAHIM ROBERSON
ANDRES MOSSA

OLD MAN QUILL



PARENTAL ADVISORY

PETER QUILL—BORN ON EARTH TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND ALIEN FATHER—SET OUT FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE AMONG THE STARS AS STAR-LORD. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY AND SPENT YEARS FIGHTING AND DEFENDING WITH THE RACIST GROUP OF MISFITS.

EVENTUALLY, LIFE TOOK HIM DOWN A NEW PATH. PETER TOOK OVER FROM HIS FATHER AS EMPEROR OF THE PLANET SPARTAN, CHOSE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SWASHBUCKLING ANTICS OF HIS PAST, STARTED A FAMILY, AND HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH THE GUARDIANS.

NOW HE IS SIMPLY...

OLD MAN QUILL

"THE COWBOY WHO STARTED THE FIGHT"

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HAILED AS A HERO AFTER LIBERATING A TOWN FROM THE WRECKING CREW, PETER HAD A BOUNTY PLACED ON HIS HEAD BY DOOM, SEEKING THE REWARD, THE GHOST RIDERS GANG PLANNED AN AMBUSH. NOW PRISONER OF TASKMASTER'S BRUTAL GLADIATORIAL ARENA AS A RESULT, PETER AND HIS FELLOW CAPTIVES MUST TRY TO SURVIVE THE MAIN EVENT—AND FIN FRANK FOAM HAS JUST BEEN UNLEASHED!

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**IBRAIM ROBERSON**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

LETTERER...**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

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Note: The events of this story take place after OLD MAN HAWKEYE and the original OLD MAN LOGAN.

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RICE-ECCLES STADIUM.
FISK LAKE CITY.
THE WASTELANDS.













ITEM: Speaking of funny mags, the newish of NOT BRAND ECHH is finally sporting its own Letters Page. So, if you've been looking for a reason to latch onto a copy, now you've got it! Incidentally, this maniacal mag has become the "in" sensation of the year! (Now, if we can only figure out WHICH year?)

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

Many of you unsung heroes have written to ask how we really feel about our own mags. You've inquired whether we take them seriously, or just treat 'em as a patently pointless put-on! Well, just for the record, Charlie, we BELIEVE in our swingin' superheroes! We create them—we live with their adventures—their hang-ups—almost 24 hours a day. We know 'em as well as we know our families . . . and better than we know Irving Forbush! No, literature lover, our fearless little fables are NOT put-ons! To us, they're what's happening, baby! It's the REAL world we have our doubts about—but that's another story! Till next month then, Face Front! That's where the action is!



STAN LEE
FOREVER

Ralph Risher, Charleston, S. C.
Leonard Lowe, Panama City, Fla.
David Rinehart, Lansing, Mich.
Ricky MacMillan, Salamanca, N. Y.

Alan Masuda, Gardena, Calif.
Tom Madden, Moundsville, W. Va.
Peter Napee, New York, N. Y.
L. J. N. J.

David M. Eureka, N. J.
Richard, N. J.
John M. Chiella, N. J.
Don O. Rock, N. J.





THIS HERO
OF NORSE
CREEN MAY BE
A PROBLEM.

DOOM'S CITADEL. NEW LATVERIA.



HE SEEMS TO
BE INSPIRING
PISSANT.



SAY NO
MORE.
IT'S
ALREADY
TAKEN CARE
OF.

ACTIVATING
HUNTER-KILLER
DOOMBOT
PROTOCOL.

THE WASTELANDS, 250 MILES WEST OF ELECTROVILLE.



YOU SHOULD
HAVE ASKED
YOUR BUDDY
THE DRAGON TO GIVE US
A LIFT TO THIS
ELECTROVILLE.

DON'T
HAVE MANY
FRIENDS LEFT,
DO YOU?

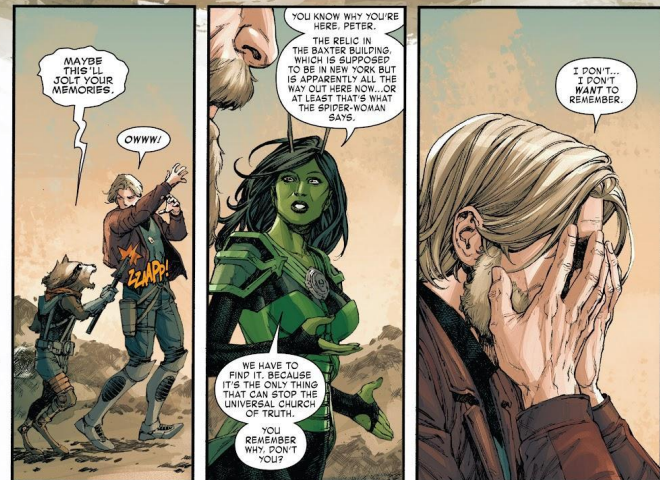
HE'S NOT
MY BUDDY.
HE'S A DAMN
DRAGON!

NO HE
DOESN'T.
THAT'S A FAIR
POINT.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT
YOU WANT FROM
ME... I'M TRYING.
DAMN IT!

I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHY I'M
HERE.



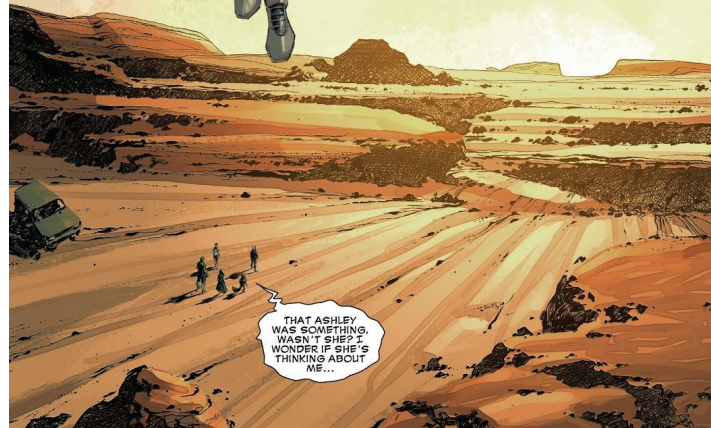
MAYBE
THIS'LL
JOLT YOUR
MEMORIES.

OWWWW!

YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE
HERE, PETER.
THE RELIC IN
THE BAXTER BUILDING,
WHICH IS SUPPOSED
TO BE IN NEW YORK BUT
IS APPARENTLY ALL THE
WAY OUT HERE NOW... OR
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT
THE SPIDER-WOMAN
SAYS.

WE HAVE TO
FIND IT BECAUSE
IT'S THE ONLY THING
THAT CAN STOP THE
UNIVERSAL CHURCH
OF TRUTH.
YOU
REMEMBER
WHY, DON'T
YOU?

I DON'T...
I DON'T
REMEMBER.



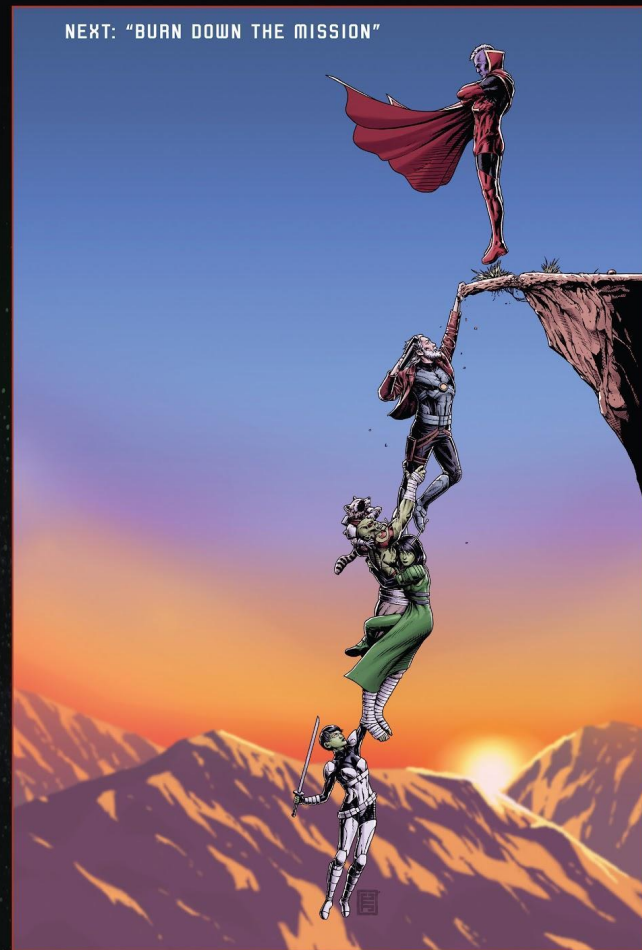


TITANIA TOWN MARKET, COLORADO.





NEXT: "BURN DOWN THE MISSION"



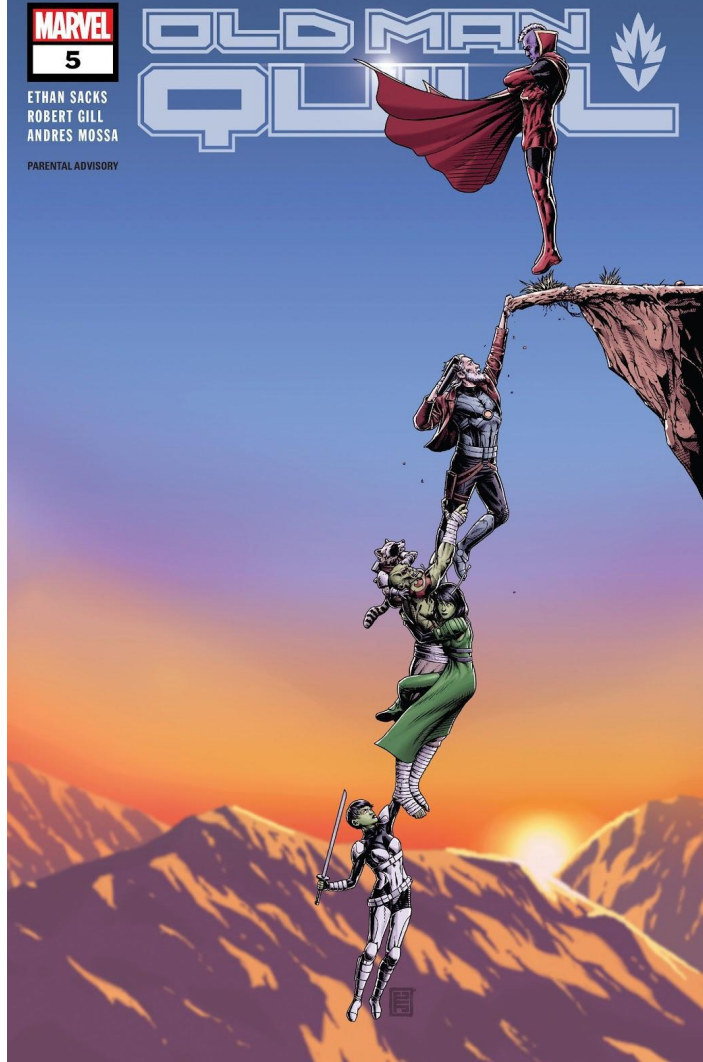
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OLD MAN QUICK



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HAILED AS A HERO AFTER LIBERATING A TOWN FROM THE WRECKING CREW, PETER HAD A BOUNTY PLACED ON HIS HEAD BY DOOM AND WAS CAPTURED. AFTER ESCAPING TASKMASTER'S BRUTAL GLADIATORIAL ARENA, PETER CONTINUES HIS QUEST TO SEEK OUT THE ONLY WEAPON THAT CAN STOP THE CHURCH ONCE AND FOR ALL...

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

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STAN'S SOAPBOX
 JULY 1968

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

We sometimes receive letters accusing us of publishing too many different titles. A number of fans have said it's too expensive trying to buy all our mags, and they ask us not to be so greedy, and to publish less of 'em. So, we thought you might like to hear OUR side of it. The only reason we constantly add new titles is because YOU ask for them. Thousands upon thousands of your letters demanded that we give Cap, Shell-Head, Namor, and all the others their own magazines. In fact, remember when we tried to discontinue the Hulk some years ago? Your unceasing outcry forced us to bring him back, despite the fact that it imposed a tremendous strain upon our already overworked staff. And each time we try to publish fewer with letter-per demanding more than ever. Personally, we'd be happy to let up a bit. Many of us, including yours truly, haven't had a vacation in years! But, our policy was, is, and always will be to give Marveldom what it asks for, and judging by our ever-skyrocketing sales, we're not far from the mark. That's the lowdown, loyal one. We don't want you to spend all your bread on our mags, honest. But, so long as the dramatic demand for them continues, we can't turn a deaf ear. Anyway, remember this: no matter how many stories we create each month, our credo will always be the same — Nil Nisi Optimus — nothing but the best!

Excelsior!
 —Smiley



STAN LEE
 FOREVER



can Matt Murdock find a way to defeat the menace so powerful? Well, mighty Thor #1 find a way to defeat the og, all of Asgard will triumph at last!

CAPTAIN AMERICA wears a strip of his neck, he's Skull! But, if he We don't know can help our s out of this one

INCREDIBLE HULK tering climax between our gr madly malic lopin' super-

IRON MAN Unicorn, from Marvel? We pure, unadu our great action time style! And

SUB-MARINE Namor rel just in tin of the m of all... the wild battle-sc

MARVEL CAPTAIN greatest crusade Sub-M which the w

NICK think before mon to m Hell DR.



THIS COULD BE THE CHANCE WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR.

BUT POOM WILL BE HUNTING FOR THE HERO OF HORSE CREEK. HE'S BECOMING TOO POWERFUL A SYMBOL.

OUR SPIES HEARD HIM ASKING ABOUT ELECTROVILLE. VIVIAN. HE'S LIKELY HEADING THERE.

BROADCAST TO ANY OF OUR FORCES IN THE AREA--



TO ALL OPERATIVES, PROCEED TO THESE COORDINATES, INTERCEPT THE "HERO OF HORSE CREEK" AND BRING HIM IN.



--PROCEED TO THESE COORDINATES, INTERCEPT THE "HERO OF HORSE CREEK"--



--AND BRING HIM IN.

DEEP IN THE WASTELANDS.





NEW KANDAR,
NOVA CORPS
HOMELAND.

"THE UNIVERSE CAN'T
AFFORD TO WAIT
MUCH LONGER FOR
YOU TO COME
AROUND, PETER."





WE WON!
THE CHURCH
IS PULLING
BACK.

THIS FEELS
TOO EASY. THIS
IS THE ARMADA
THAT OBLITERATED
COUNTLESS
SYSTEMS.



THEY APPEAR TO HAVE
LEFT BEHIND A DEVICE
OF SOME KIND, BUT
WE'RE NOT GETTING
ANY CLEAR
READINGS...



WHATEVER THEY HAVE IN STORE, WE
HAVE TO BE READY! THE NOVA CORPS
IS THE GALAXY'S LAST DEFENSE
AGAINST TYRANNY.

THE
NOVA CORPS
WILL FIGHT TO
THE LAST--

SIR,
WHAT IS
THAT?

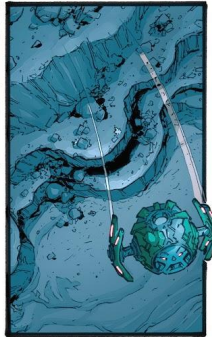
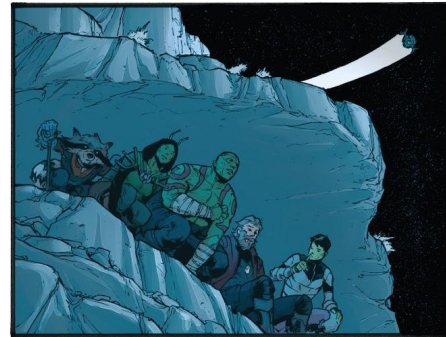


DEAR
GOD... IT
CAN'T
BE...



BE
STILL.

MMHMM?



WE'VE GOT TO PRESS
FORWARD. THE MAP
SHOWS ELECTROVILLE AT
ANOTHER DAY'S JOURNEY.
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE
UP TO THIS?

OF
COURSE
NOT!



BETTER
MAKE FOR THAT TOWN
OVER THERE AND GET
SOME FRESH
SUPPLIES...



BE ON YOUR GUARD--WHOMEVER OR WHATEVER DID THIS MAY BE NEARBY--



THOSE ARE HUMAN TEETH MARKS.

I KNOW I SHOULD BE HORRIFIED, BUT IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I HAD A STEAK.



SEEMS LIKE THIS TOWN IS AS DEAD AS THE COW. HOPEFULLY THE TOWNFOLK FLEW BEFORE--



NOT ALL OF THEM, PRAX-- THERE--



OKAY, I REALIZE WE'RE GOING THERE, BUT HAVEN'T ANY OF YOU SEEN ANY EARTH HORROR MOVIE EVER?



ON THE COUNT OF THREE-- TWO--



FOR GOD'S SAKE, BOY, GET THE HELL IN HERE BEFORE THEY HEAR YOU.

WAIT, WILL HE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP US-- HE LOOKS LIKE THE HERO THAT THE TRAVELING DOCTOR WAS GOSSIPING ABOUT.

HE AIN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO HELP US.



THEY PROBABLY FOLLOWED HIM STRAIGHT TO US!

WHO IS THEY?



LIGHTEN UP, THIS IS THE SQUAD THAT TOOK OUT THANOS AND HELPED WIN THE BEYONDER WARS. WHAT COULD POSSIBLY--

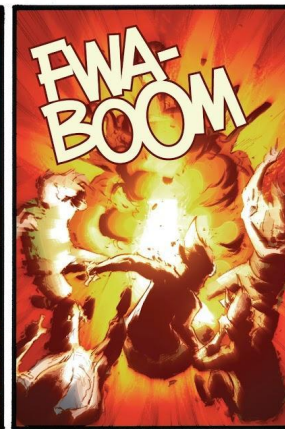


HUNGGERRRYYY!

EH FORGET I SAID ANYTHING.









NEXT: "WATCHER OF THE SKIES"



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[MHEROES@MARVEL.COM](mailto:mheroes@marvel.com)—AND BE SURE TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!

MARVEL
6

ETHAN SACKS
IBRAIM ROBERSON
ANDRES MOSSA

PARENTAL ADVISORY

OLD MAN QUILL



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THE EARTH'S HAD A ROUGH GO OF IT SINCE QUILL HAS LAST BEEN THERE, WITH DOCTOR DOOM CURRENTLY OVERLOAD OF THE WASTELANDS THAT REMAIN AFTER THE SUPER VILLAINS TOOK OUT THE PLANET'S HEROES.

EN ROUTE TO THE LOCATION OF THE ARTIFACT, PETER SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED A GROUP OF CIVILIANS AGAINST A BAND OF BLOODTHIRSTY MADRAX MULTIPLE MEN. BUT VICTORY WAS SHORT-LIVED DUE TO THE ARRIVAL OF PULSAR, ONE OF THE CHURCH'S LOYAL IMPERIAL GUARDSMEN, WHO UNLEASHED AN ENERGY BLAST THAT SEEMINGLY OBLITERATED EVERYONE IN ITS PATH...

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**IBRAHIM ROBERSON**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

LETTERER...**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

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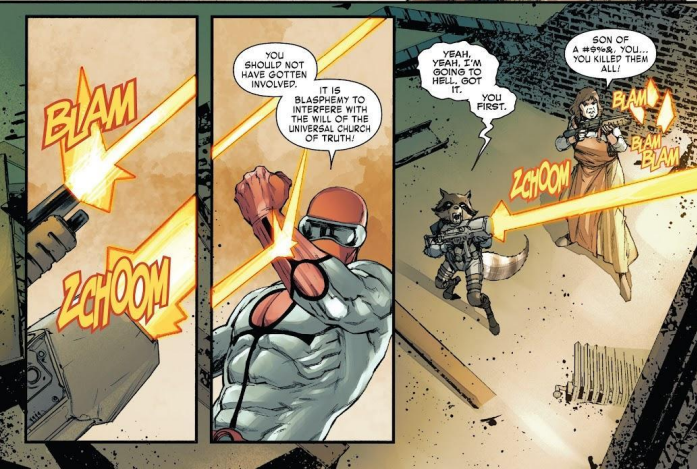
PRESIDENT...**DAN BUCKLEY** ♦ EXECUTIVE PRODUCER...**ALAN FINE**

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SPARTAK.
THEN.









TINS • MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS ENTS UP FOR GRABS

STAN'S SOAPBOX
NOVEMBER 1968

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Let's lay it right on the line. Bigotry and racism are among the deadliest social ills plaguing the world today. But, unlike a team of costumed superheroes, they can't be halted with a punch in the snoot, or a zap from a ray gun. The only way to destroy them is to expose them — to reveal them for the insidious evils they really are. The bigot is an unreasoning hater — one who hates blindly, fanatically, indiscriminately. If his hang-up is black men, he hates ALL black men. If a redhead once offended him, he hates ALL redheads. If some foreigner beat him to a job, he's down on ALL foreigners. He hates people he's never seen — people he's never known — with equal intensity — with equal venom. Now, we're not trying to say it's unreasonable for one human being to bug another. But, although anyone has the right to dislike another individual, it's totally irrational, patently insane to condemn an entire race — to despise an entire nation — to vilify an entire religion. Sooner or later, we must learn to judge each other on our own merits. Sooner or later, if man is ever to be worthy of his destiny, we must fill our hearts with tolerance. For then, and only then, will we be truly worthy of the concept that man was created in the image of God — a God who calls us ALL — His children.

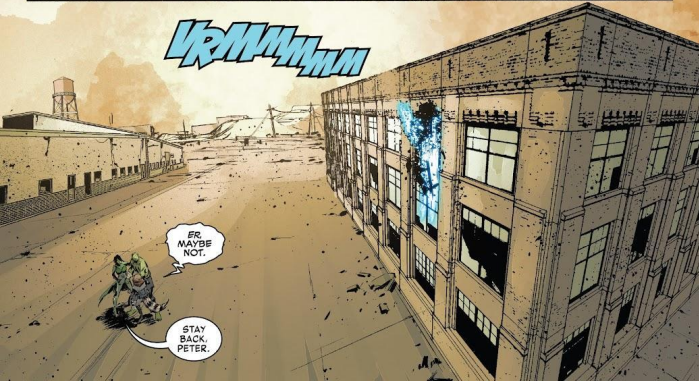
Pax et Justitia,
Stan.



STAN LEE
FOREVER

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS
#18: Still the greatest Bullpen bargain of all! It's spearheaded by the FF... so how can ya lose?

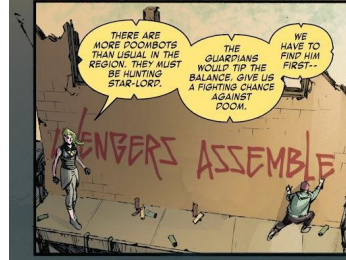
AND, STILL ON SALE — (IF YOU'RE LUCKY!)
REGULAR SPIDER-MAN #2:
color! Stan-













NEW KANDAR.



MY LORD,
OUR GOD,
I AM SORRY
TO DISTURB
YOU.



I AM HERE TO
INFORM YOU THAT
WE HAVE LOCATED
PETER GULL... HE DOES
NOT SEEM TO HAVE THE
ULTIMATE NULLIFIER
AS WE FEARED.

THIS IS
WHY YOU
DISTURBED
MY MEAL?



THERE IS
MORE... HE IS ON
EARTH, BUT HE HAS
FOUND THE WORLD
STRIPPED OF ALL ITS
HEROES. IT IS RIFE
FOR YOU.



NO FANTASTIC
FOUR? NO
AVENGERS? YOU
HAVE DONE WELL,
MY HERALD!

PREPARE THE
SHIPS. IT HAS BEEN
A LONG TIME SINCE
GALACTUS VISITED
EARTH.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

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ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

Uhhhh...YEAH, that's Galactus, A.K.A. the Devourer of Worlds, A.K.A. BAD NEWS for Earth.

But that's next month's problem. Meanwhile, we've intercepted a few messages bouncing around the cosmos in relation to OLD MAN QUILL and wanted to print a few of them here in ACROSS THE UNIVERSE!

Old Man Star-Lord is everything I hoped for and more! Sacks wasted no time delivering us the defeated Quill, drinking himself into oblivion, only to be rescued by his real family, the slightly senile, arthritic, Golden Years Guardians! I'm loving the Guardians that look like they may have just escaped the Marvel Heroes retirement community, although Gamora looks to have aged well! The possibilities of when the Guardians and Quill will have to face now in the Wastelands has me stoked for the next book! I've got my fingers crossed to see some old friends pop up! Mantis' visions of Quill wielding a weapon raise interesting prospects as well! Incredible job to all involved! Keep it blazing! Can't wait to see what's in store!

Quill and GOTG out of retirement! Make Mine Marvel!
Excelsior!
David Conine

Hope you've enjoyed some of the friends and not-so-friendly cameos so far! And those Zen-Whoberi genes are something else. But IS there something else at play, too...?

I knew from my experience with OLD MAN LOGAN and OLD MAN HAWKEYE that I'd have to pick up OLD MAN QUILL. (And that was officially the most times I've ever used "old man" in a single sentence.) As I knew I would be, I'm glad I snagged a copy of the book.

Great start to the series, and I'm excited to see where the journey takes us. Are we finally going to find out where Nekra, Conan the Barbarian, Phastos, Silver Dagger, and Howard the Duck ended up within the Wastelands? I hope so!

Darrick Patrick
Dayton, Ohio

Could that be our next team...? Spoiler: Probably not.

Hi All,

Just a quick thumbs-up for OLD MAN QUILL. I enjoyed it!!!...until, that is, I read the little sign-off at the end of the last page: "Send your notes across the universe"...and that set off a pet peeve that I have been meaning to address with the writers at Marvel (and the Distinguished Competition) who keep limiting their universes:

Our universe is estimated to have 19,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 Earthlike planets (just Earthlike...not like Ego or planets that may harbor silicon life-forms, etc.). That means if Star-Lord were to visit each one for just one minute and then transport instantly to another it would take him 361,491,628,615 MILLENNIA (that's a thousand Earth years for just one unit) to do so!

Please, dear writers, consider the size, scope and possibilities of our universe before contemplating what may be in others...a Multiverse...mind blown!
Frank Scannella

Whoa, Frank! I'll have to trust you on that number, but those are some staggering statistics. I hear you on the desire to spend time exploring the other aspects of a single universe, but of course we do that (from a fictional standpoint) as evidenced in this very issue with Sparfax and Kandar, to say nothing of Hala, Sakaar, Ego, and the other worlds we've seen in Marvel stories.

If your underlying point is that we should spend more time with those than with alternate universes... there's room for both, isn't there?

I hope seeing your letter on this page helps ease the pain of that peeve!

Hello,

First time writing, I've been a fan of the OLD MAN LOGAN, OLD MAN HAWKEYE, and now OLD MAN QUILL series. Keep up the amazing work. Great stories, great writing, great artwork. I have one big question. What ever happened to the case of 99 vials of super-soldier serum? Was it recovered, and if so, by who? And will we see an Old Man Punisher series? Or any other hero? Sorry for all the questions and thank you for all the great years.

Ram Gonzalez

Hey Ram, we appreciate you following these series and writing about them! Re: the 99 vials, after Hawkeye's two quests, their ultimate fate is a story as yet untold. And I'm sure you've seen Old Man Punisher in 2018's OLD MAN LOGAN ANNUAL, but no plans for a series at this time. What do you all think—would you want to read more about Castle in the Wastelands?

Let us know! And keep sending your feedback on OLD MAN QUILL by writing to MMHEROES@marvel.com and marking your message OKAY TO PRINT! And above all, be sure not to miss next issue...it is one that's going to have EVERYONE talking...and you digging out your previous issues...!

--Mark

NEXT: "WAY DOWN IN THE HOLE"



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MMHEROES@MARVEL.COM—AND BE SURE TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!



ETHAN SACKS
ROBERT GILL
ANDRES MOSSA

PARENTAL
ADVISORY

OLD MAN QUILL



PETER QUILL—BORN ON EARTH TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND ALIEN FATHER—SET OUT FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE AMONG THE STARS AS STAR-LOAD. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY AND SPENT YEARS FIGHTING AND DEFENDING WITH THE RACIST GROUP OF MISFITS.

EVENTUALLY, LIFE TOOK HIM DOWN A NEW PATH. PETER TOOK OVER FROM HIS FATHER AS EMPEROR OF THE PLANET SPARTAN, CHOSE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SWASHBUCKLING ANTICS OF HIS PAST, STARTED A FAMILY, AND HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH THE GUARDIANS.

NOW HE IS SIMPLY...

OLD MAN QUILL

"WAY DOWN IN THE HOLE"

WHEN PETER QUILL'S STRATEGIC MISCALCULATION LEFT HIS PLANET UNDEFENDED, THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH DESTROYED SPARTAN. BLAMING HIMSELF, QUILL SPENT YEARS IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE. BUT THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY HAVE PULLED HIM INTO ONE LAST MISSION—AND CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION: RETURN TO EARTH TO RETRIEVE AN ARTIFACT TO STOP THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH FROM DESTROYING OTHER PLANETS.

THE EARTH'S HAD A ROUGH GO OF IT SINCE QUILL HAS LAST BEEN THERE, WITH DOCTOR DOOM CURRENTLY OVERLOAD OF THE WASTELANDS THAT REMAIN AFTER THE SUPER VILLAINS TOOK OUT THE PLANET'S HEROES.

AFTER NARROWLY SURVIVING AN EXPLOSIVE BATTLE WITH PULSAR, PETER FINALLY FOUND HIMSELF WITHIN REACH OF THE BAXTER BUILDING AND THE WEAPON INSIDE THAT COULD END THE CHURCH ONCE AND FOR ALL. BUT THE TRUE "GOD" BEHIND THE CHURCH IS NONE OTHER THAN GALACTUS—AND THE WORLD-DEVOURER, SUMMONED BY PULSAR'S FINAL TRANSMISSION, NOW HEADS TOWARD EARTH!

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

LETTERER...**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

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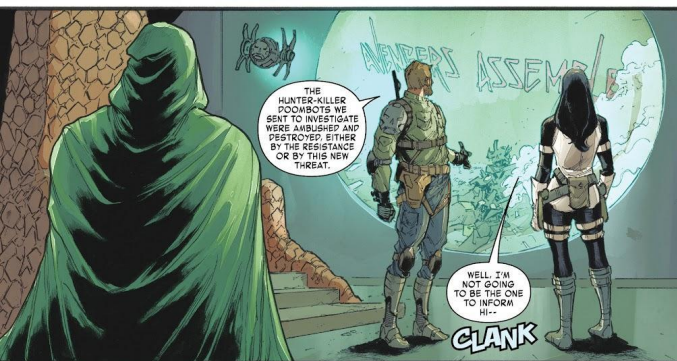
Note: The events of this story take place after OLD MAN HAWKEYE and the original OLD MAN LOGAN.

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ELECTROVILLE,
THE WASTELANDS.









THE FIRST
STEP IS A
POOZY.



YOU WEREN'T KIDDING
ABOUT FORCES DRIVING
THE BUILDING DEEP INTO
THE GROUND.



WHAT ARE YOU WORRIED
ABOUT? DON'T RACCOONS
ALWAYS LAND ON THEIR
FEET?

SHOULD HAVE
STAYED BACK ON
ALPHA CENTAURI
WITH THOSE
SHOWGIRLS.



WHICH WAY
NOW, MANTIS?
CAN YOU SEE
ANYTHING?



THIS IS THE
MOST HEAVILY
FORTIFIED PART
OF THE BAXTER
BUILDING.

REED
RICHARDS' LAB
SHOULD BE JUST
DOWN AT THIS
END OF THE
HALLWAY.

THE
ULTIMATE
NULLIFIER
COULD BE
THERE.



MINUTES LATER.

DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
THERE'S MUCH
LEFT...



DOESN'T LOOK LIKE
MUCH? DID YOU SEE
THIS BEAUTY?

OH, THE
THINGS I COULD
DO WITH A
HULKUSTER...



MAYBE THERE'S SOME
RECORD OF THE
WEAPON... IF WE CAN
GET THE COMPUTER
RUNNING...

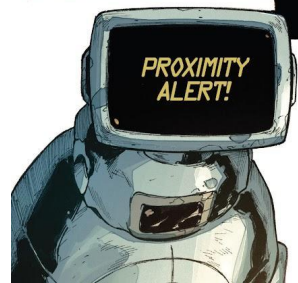
I DON'T
SUPPOSE
THERE'S A BUTTON
THAT REARS
'ACTIVATE'?















ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

I'm sure your head's spinning with questions after that ending! Is Gladiator telling the truth? Has Peter really been alone all this time? If so, what happened to the Guardians? And what does Peter really know?

While you're waiting for next month's issue and some answers...dig out your previous issues of **OLD MAN QUILL** and see if you can spot some of the clues we've dropped along the way...

Hi, my name is Kristopher. I have been reading **OLD MAN QUILL**, and I have to say that it has been my most enjoyable read. This story has been exciting, and it's been fun to see the characters much older. RIP Taskmaster, hahaha! I look forward to the next issue, and I hope this series continues. Great work!

Taskmaster made his bed and now he's got to lie in it!

Finally, someone is writing Mantis again!

Just read **OLD MAN QUILL**, and I quite enjoyed it. I loved the use of the Universal Church of Truth (particularly the Polluter designs for the Black Knights and the Matriarch). The synchronicity of the opening with the opening of Abnett and Lanning's first issue of **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY** was amazing and most welcomed. Robert Gill and Andres Mossa's art is working well for me. Ethan Sacks too has done a great job of blending the film characterizations and the comic books iterations of the Guardians of the Galaxy (not an easy task, given the movies are so vastly different).

But now they're on Earth. My biggest pet peeve about cosmic stories is when they become populated by "Earth heroes." These Earth heroes always soak up valuable narrative real estate that I'd much rather see devoted to actual cosmic characters. I know you're wanting to connect this story with the **OLD MAN LOGAN** timeline, but what I truly loved about this issue was how "cosmic" it was until the end. I like the mystery surrounding Gladiator and the Shi'Ar. And I'm sincerely hoping the "dark god" of the UCOT is the Magus and not Thanos. My mind is going nuts over the idea of this timeline being the same one as shown in the classic Jim Starlin Adam Warlock/Magus story from the '70s.

Regardless of which way the story goes, I hope Sacks keeps it more cosmic and less Earth heroes hangin' around the Guardians. The Earth heroes have a ton of books that feature them. The cosmic characters not so much. If this story must be set on Earth, at least bring the cosmic characters to Earth then.

Make Mine Cosmic Marvel!
Mitch

As you've seen, cosmic forces have pursued Quill back to Earth as we've gone along (and that dark god is none

other than Galactus)...but next issue we'll get into more of what you're looking for, Mitch.

Ethan,

THE BEST issue so far is...OMQ #4!!

Cheers,
AJ5

Still up in your top? What about this issue? And let us know after you read NEXT issue...

I absolutely love the **OLD MAN** series! I've been reading them since **OLD MAN LOGAN** and thought **OLD MAN HAWKEYE** was spectacular! I love that you guys are expanding on this universe, especially since you're now showing what happened in the cosmic side of the Marvel Universe. It's so interesting to see what heroes made it through the villain takeover and see where they are now. I would love to see a follow-up to Hawkeye finding Matt Murdock as a monk and learning from him.

I'm excited to see what Doctor Doom has been doing considering we only got a glimpse of him in **OLD MAN LOGAN**. He's basically the only large-scale villain left throughout the Wastelands.

I do have one question: Where is Steve Rogers? It seems like you guys have been trying to make it very obvious that he was not the Captain America that the Red Skull killed, who was in fact Bucky Barnes (considering the fact that the suit he had on at the end of **OLD MAN LOGAN** was the suit with a black bottom and the fact that when we see the Winter Soldier it appears as if his eyes had been gouged out). This is how the Red Skull killed Captain America during the villain takeover. I hope Steve Rogers is out there in the Wastelands getting ready for a comeback.

I'm so excited to see what direction you guys take this universe. Thank you so much for all the enjoyment you bring your readers.

Thank you,
Cole Prather

Thanks for your support, Cole. We appreciate you sticking with the Wastelands for the long term! Good question—all signs point to Bucky bearing the mantle of Captain America during the villain takeover...so Steve Rogers' ultimate fate in the **OLD MAN**-iverse has yet to be revealed...

That's all we've got this month! Get back into those back issues and send us some letters! See you in thirty!

Mark

NEXT: "DON'T FEAR THE REAPER"



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MHEROES@MARVEL.COM—AND BE SURE TO MARK THEM “OKAY TO PRINT”!

OLD MAN QUILL

SACKS · ROBERSON · ROSENBERG



MARVEL

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PARENTAL ADVISORY

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AFTER ENDURING MANY TRIALS ON HIS QUEST, PETER FINALLY FOUND HIMSELF WITHIN REACH OF THE ARTIFACT, BURIED IN THE REMNANTS OF THE BAXTER BUILDING. BUT HIS EFFORTS WERE THWARTED BY THE ARRIVAL OF GLADIATOR AND THE CHURCH'S IMPERIAL GUARD, WHO MADE A DEVASTATING DECLARATION: THE GUARDIANS ARE LONG DEAD, AND PETER'S BEEN ALONE ON HIS QUEST. BUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THE GUARDIANS...?

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**IBRAHIM ROBERSON**

COLORIST...**RACHELLE ROSENBERG**

LETTERER...**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

COVER ARTIST...**JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER**

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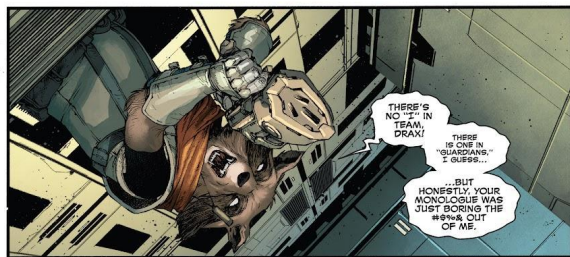
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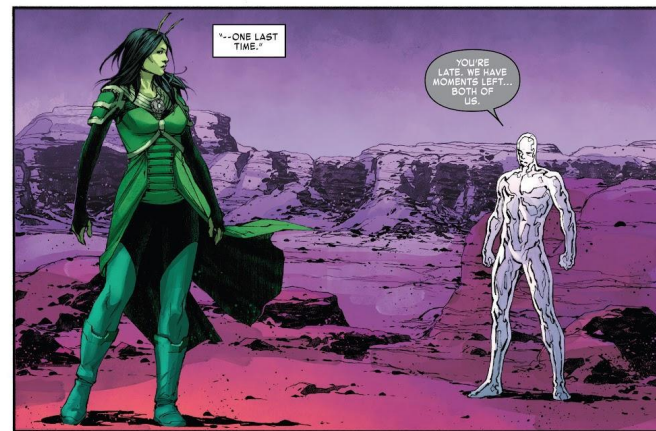
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**NEW SIRIUS,
ARCHIVE SHIP OF
THE CHURCH OF
UNIVERSAL TRUTH.**

**THREE
MONTHS
AGO.**



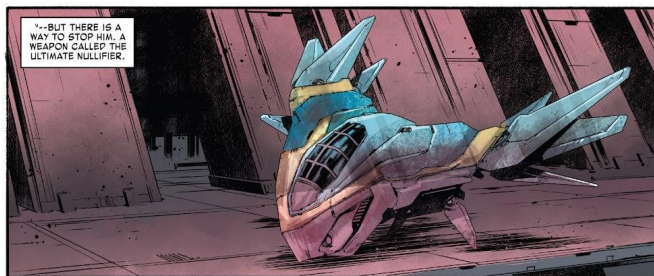












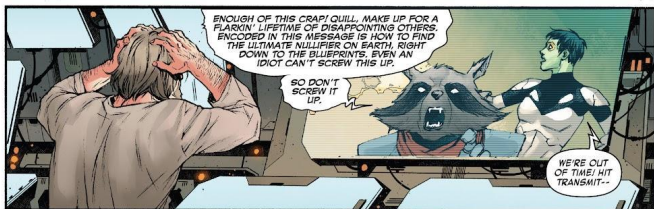
SPARTAN...
OR WHAT'S LEFT
OF IT. LATER.

A SHIP IS
HAILING YOU,
EMPEROR
QUILL..

I TOLD YOU
NOT TO...CALL
ME THAT...I DON'T
WANT ANY
VISITORS.

THERE ARE
NO LIFE-FORMS
DETECTED...JUST A
MESSAGE. SHALL
I PLAY IT?

WHY THE
HELL NOT? I GOT
NOTHING ELSE ON
MY SOCIAL CALENDAR...



THE RUINS OF THE
BAXTER BUILDING,
THE WASTELANDS.

now.

HE IS NOT THE THREAT WE
WERE MADE TO BELIEVE.
CAN I JUST KILL HIM
NOW AND BE DONE
WITH IT?

PATIENCE. HE WILL DIE SOON
ENOUGH...FIRST WE NEED TO
SEE WHAT ELSE HE KNOWS AND
WHO HE'S TOLD. I SWEAR
ALL WHO STOOP AGAINST
THE CHURCH WOULD
PIE.





"PETER QUILL... SKKK... DID YOU HEART PLEASE RETREAT IN AN ORDERLY FASHION... SKKK... H.E.R.B.I.E. IS PROGRAMMED TO SAVE THE LAST LIVING SUPER HERO..."

...LAST LIVING SUPER HERO.





TO BE CONTINUED...



NEXT: "GO YOUR OWN WAY"

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STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, students! The subject of today's "swingin'" seminar will be "Where Do You Nuts Get Your Ideas?" That question is asked of Yours Truly at lectures, interviews, and bull sessions more often than any other. So, let's kick it around for Marveldom Assembled. Here point is, ideas are no problem. Here in the Bullpen, we can't talk to each other for five minutes without coming up with a zillion new thoughts and angles. The big hangup is getting the time to develop the ideas... to polish them, and refine them until we feel they'll have maximum impact — until we know they'll be an integral part of the ubiquitous Marvel universe! Everyone has ideas — you, I, the gang in the mailroom — even our competitors, bless 'em. What really counts is what you DO with them. We believe that almost any idea can be worthwhile, if it's presented with integrity, taste, and imagination. For, an idea is like a guitar — it doesn't mean a thing unless you know how to use it!

Excelsior,
Smiley



STAN LEE
FOREVER

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THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST
MARVELOUS Mags On Sale Right Now!
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... and the outer
... Prepare to be star-

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mas — and Nick
... with the dreaded
... blockbuster!

DR. STRANGE
... mystic master
... Knight for a d
... Tibora!

SGT. FURY #6
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... buffs!

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ROSENBERG

OLD MAN QUILL



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THEY DIDN'T MAKE IT OUT OF THEIR MISSION ALIVE, BUT IN THEIR LAST MOMENTS TRANSMITTED A MESSAGE TO QUILL WITH THE INFORMATION HE'D NEED TO LOCATE THE WEAPON ON EARTH. NOT MENTALLY PREPARED FOR THIS NEWS, AND ROBBED OF ALL CONFIDENCE, PETER'S BEEN HALLUCINATING THE CONTENTS OF THEIR MESSAGE AS THE GUARDIANS THEMSELVES GUIDING HIM ON HIS MISSION.

HE MADE IT TO THE BAXTER BUILDING, WHERE THE WEAPON WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HIDDEN, ONLY TO COME UP EMPTY-HANDED AS FORCES CLOSE IN. ON THE VERGE OF TOTAL DEFEAT AND FINALLY FACING THAT THE GUARDIANS ARE GONE, PETER FOUND INSPIRATION IN THE MEMORY OF HIS FALLEN COMRADES AND VOWED TO FIGHT BACK!

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...**RACHELLE ROSENBERG**

LETTERER...**UC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

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STAN'S SOAPBOX

For many years we've been trying, in our own bumbling way, to illustrate that love is a far greater force, a far greater power than hate. Now we're expected to go around like a pirouetting Pollyanna, tossing posies at everyone who passes by, but we do want to make a point. Let's consider three men: Buddha, Christ, and Moses . . . men of peace, whose thoughts and deeds have influenced countless millions throughout the ages — and whose presence still is felt in every corner of the earth. Buddha, Christ, and Moses . . . men of good will, men of tolerance, and especially men of love. Now, consider the practitioners of hate who have sullied the pages of history. Who still venerates their words? Where is homage still paid to their memory? What banners still are raised to their cause? The power of love — and the power of hate. Which is most truly enduring? When you tend to despair . . . let the answer sustain you.

Excelsior!
Smiley

GRAINGER, North Carolina . . . our pal SAL BUSCEMA, Virginia; while Jaunty J. STERANKO and Joltin' J. CRAIG both have their pads in Pennsylvania . . . Torrid TOM SUTTON, Massachusetts . . . and Valiant MOONEY, Connecticut . . . and Jumpy JOHNNY VINCE COLLETTA, Jumpin' JOHNNY SEVERIN, and Genial GENE COLAN, all nesting in New Jersey! The rest of us share the same high taxes and traffic jams in New York and Long Island — darn it! (And we never DID find out where Honorary Irv holes up!)

Now, before cutting out, we've just gotta tell you about Jolly SOLLY BRODSKY. A few days ago he announced that he, stunted as the children were finally



STAN LEE
FOREVER

CAPTAIN AMERICA about a Marvel senses-shattering ita — featuring a really in action!

HULK #116: The whole world a SUPER-HUMAN dynamite!

IRON MAN # PHANTOM — power than a ters! Can ex him?

SUB-MARIN you thought the HUMAN of the Mad really rock

CAPTAIN ble IRON PET MAS the Kree

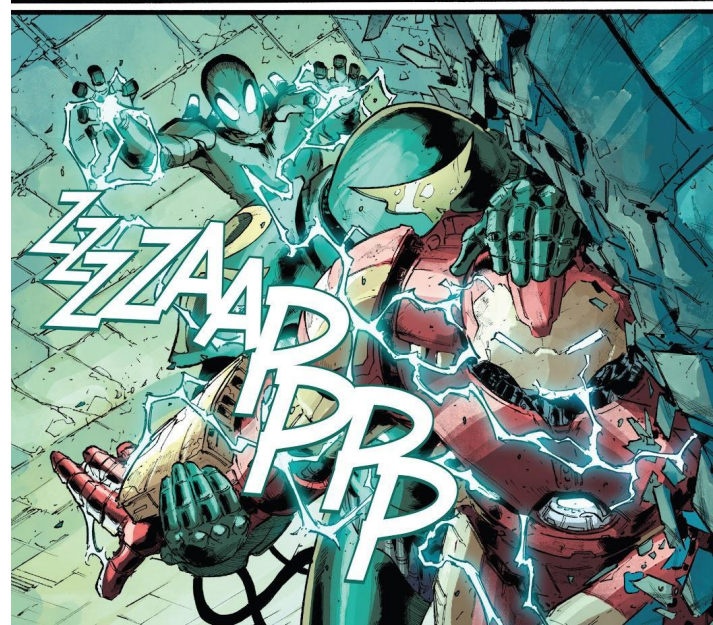
SGT. FUR HITLER! when on traitor!

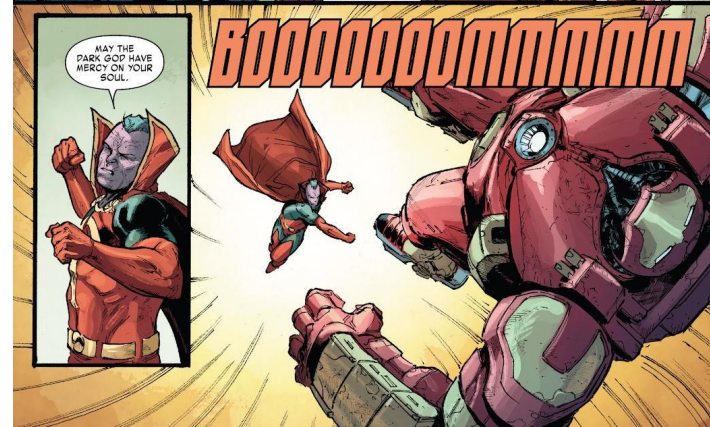
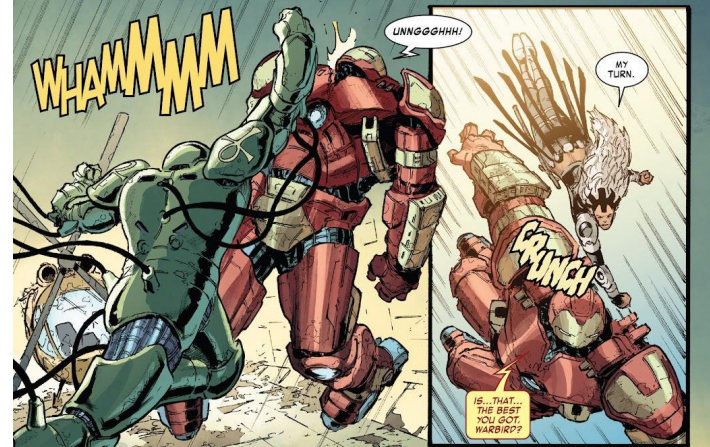
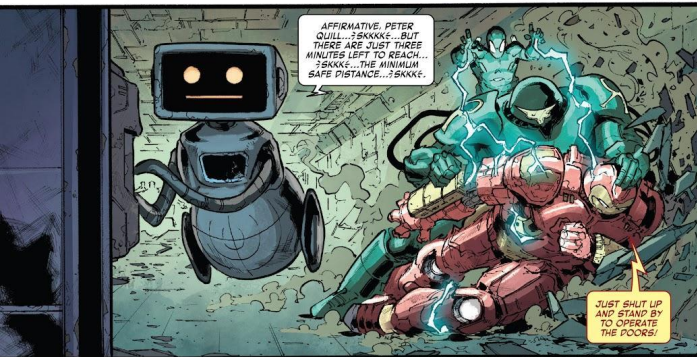
CAPT. S you der "Savage blockb order!

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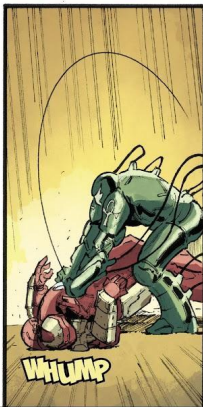
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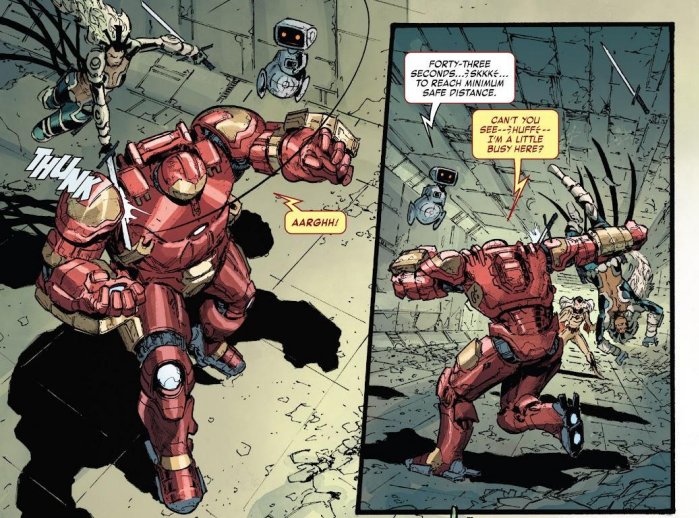




















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HALLUCINATING THAT THE GUARDIANS WERE HELPING HIM ON HIS QUEST, QUILL MADE IT TO THE BAXTER BUILDING, WHERE THE WEAPON WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HIDDEN, ONLY TO COME UP EMPTY-HANDED AS THE CHURCH'S IMPERIAL GUARD ARRIVED. HE BATTLED THE GUARDSMEN WITH THE HELP OF THE HULKBUSTER ARMOR AND H.E.A.B.L.E., BARELY ESCAPING BY RIPPING A HOLE IN THE TIMESTREAM, NOW PARTNERED WITH WU VISION AND HER REBEL FORCES AND WITH BOTH GALACTUS AND DOCTOR DOOM ON THE WAY, QUILL'S—AND THE PLANET'S—FUTURE LOOKS BLEAKER THAN EVER BEFORE...

WRITER...//**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...//**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...//**RACHELLE ROSENBERG**

LETTERER...//**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

COVER ARTIST...//**JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER**

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Note: The events of this story take place after OLD MAN HAWKEYE and the original OLD MAN LOGAN.



"LOOKS LIKE ROOM IS AFTER SOMEONE ELSE TODAY..."

TIME NEXUS.
FORMER SITE OF THE
BAXTER BUILDING.

WE LOST CAN'T BEAT GALACTUS WITHOUT THE NULLIFIER.

NO OFFENSE, GENERAL VIVIAN, BUT IF IT'S HERO OF HORSE CREEK IS OUR BEST HOPE--

--I'M NOT FEELING OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OUR CHANCES.

YES, THE LAST HALF CENTURY HAS APPARENTLY NOT TREATED HIM PARTICULARLY WELL.

OH, QUILL, YOU REALLY SCREWED UP BIG TIME. YOU COULDN'T HAVE GRABBED THE FLARKIN' ULTIMATE NULLIFIER BEFORE YOU DROPPED THE ENTIRE BAXTER BUILDING INTO THE TIME-STREAM?

YOU DON'T THINK I TRIED, YOU RABBIT.

WHY AM I EVEN BOTHERING...

--IF YOU'RE NOT EVEN REAL!

I AM NOT CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING MUCH OPTIMISM EITHER.

YOU'RE ALL DEAD...JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE I CARED ABOUT.

THAT IS TRUE! WE'RE HALLUCINATIONS RESULTING FROM A BREAK-DOWN OVER YOUR INABILITY TO PROCESS THE TRAUMA OVER THE DEATHS OF THE ACTUAL GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY.

WELL, THAT'S NOT THE MOST ELEGANT WAY OF PHRASING IT, BUT THE IMPORTANT PART IS THAT EARTH IS STILL IN REAL DANGER...

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEAMED THAT MESSAGE TO SOMEONE ELSE...

SOMEONE WHO WASN'T RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF ONE PLANET ALREADY.

OH, NOT THIS AGAIN! AFTER 30 YEARS, YOU'D THINK HE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN OVER THE DEATH OF A COUPLE BILLION PEOPLE.

PETER, YOU STILL HAVE A SHOT TO SAVE YOUR OTHER HOME PLANET AND--

I AM SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR NERVOUS BREAKDOWN OR WHATEVER THIS IS, PETER QUILL.

BUT WE HAVE RISKED TOO MUCH BRINGING YOU HERE TO HELP OVERTHROW ROOM!

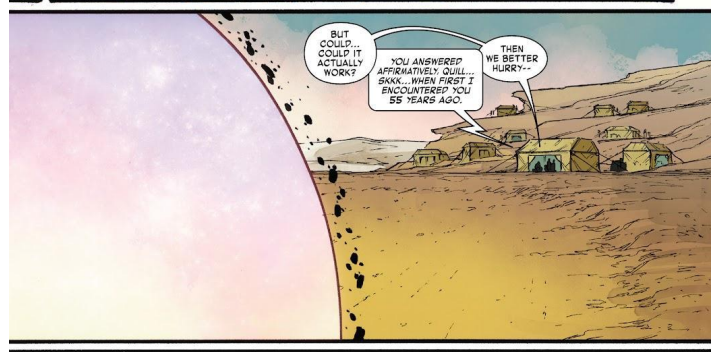
WAIT, YOU ARE REAL, AREN'T YOU, VIV? YOU'D BETTER FLEE THIS PLANET BEFORE GALACTUS GETS HERE.

QUILL...PETER, I HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR WHO YOU ONCE WERE, BUT YOUR PRIORITIES ARE CLEARLY FLAWED.

RIGHT NOW WE NEED THE 'HERO OF HORSE CREEK' TO INSPIRE THE PEOPLE OF THE WASTELANDS TO STAND UP AGAINST 'RABBIT' NOT COWER IN FEAR!

GALACTUS? THIS CRANK IS MORE DISTURBED THAN I THOUGHT!

THAT'S A NAME STRAIGHT OUT OF STORYBOOKS.



...THERE IS NO
TELLING HOW CLOSE
THE CHURCH'S ARMADA
IS RIGHT NOW."

SATURN'S MOON, TITAN.



HUH,
WILL YOU
LOOK AT
THAT...



...THE
EARTH IS
REALLY
SCREWED



STAN'S SOAPBOX • AUGUST 1969

STAN'S SOAPBOX

...what's
ERANKO?
...starting this
...ed in Mar
...suspense
...and CHAM
...you who are
...ost stories,
...acabra (and
...eal field day
...eries — and
...of the other

Every time one of our sagacious super-heroes guest-stars in another mag we get bombarded with the same type of complaints from Marveldom Assembled! "How can Thor be fighting litterbugs with Nick Fury when he's in outer space with Winken, Blinken, and Nod in his own mag?" Or "How can Captain America be trapped by Aunt May in Spidey's mag when he's running a school for teen-age dropouts in his own swingin' stanza?" So, we have two choices. Either we stop crossover guest-starring, or we ask you to permit us a little literary license. If the doings of one of our repertory players in his own mag doesn't seem to jibe with his cameo appearance in some other mag during the same month, let's just say that one story took place a few days before, or after the other, and let it go at that, huh? Anyway, we'll try it for a while and see how it shakes you! (And, if the aforementioned has in any way confused you — welcome to the club!)

Excelsior!
Smiley



STAN LEE
FOREVER

...since moving out there, Jolly JACK KIRBY has been working faster than ever and is actually getting ahead of his super-human schedule! This means he may have time to handle still another mag within the next year. So here's your chance to sound off again, faithful one! Which strip is most worthy of the Master's touch? Should we finally launch the INHUMANS? DR. DOOM? KA-ZAR? Or, do you have some other oldie or newie you'd like him to bring to life? Sock it to us, sweetie, and we'll let you know how the mail keeps coming in!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

OF SHADOWS #1: Marvel's new-...
...mag! Tales of weird
...witch...

TINS...VEL BULPEN BULLETINS... AND BED...
...to BEWILDER, BEWITCH, AND BED...
...Blake on earth on...
...of Lokil Greatnes...
...HULK #119: On...
...skinned rampager...
...ous might of his...
...band of evil...
...dish, this one's...
...IRON MAN #1...
...Midass — the m...
...and an LMD — a...
...Tony Stark — a...
...der we kill it...
...End!"

SUB-MARINER...
...which will ta...
...birth — only...
...the very stan...
...far-out schen...
...CAPTAIN MA...
...a colorful m...
...our space-b...
...tire Kree G...
...sinister sce...
...SHIELD #...
...Fury — bu...
...hostile ho...
...on the Tr...
...Thrill foll...
...DR. STR...
...nity — a...
...master c...
...most po...
...A catac...
...SGT. FU...
...is a ca...
...Klaue!...
...home...
...A gas...
...CAPT...
...wond...
...it's s...
...field...
...own...
...MAR...
...Mar...
...of f...
...and...
...witch...



THE BAXTER BUILDING.
NEW YORK.

THE DAY OF THE
RED SKULL'S ATTACK.

I... I CAN'T
MAINTAIN THE
FORCE FIELD
MUCH LONGER. THE
STRAIN IS...
TOO MUCH.

JUST NEED
ANOTHER FEW
SECONDS TO GET
THE TIME SLED
OPERATIONAL.

MY GOD,
JOHNNY... BEN...
THEY'RE DEAD!
HOW CAN YOU BE
SO CALM AND
CALCULATING
RIGHT NOW?

BECAUSE BEING CALM
AND CALCULATING IS
HOW WE TRIUMPH.

I CAN'T
RAISE THE
X-MEN OR THE
AVENGERS.

SO THEN
LET'S GET ON
WITH IT AND SAVE
THE WORLD...YET
AGAIN.

WE HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A
COORDINATED ATTACK BY SO
MANY VILLAINS--

AND IT'S A
MATTER OF TIME BEFORE
THEY BREACH THE BAXTER
BUILDING. SO WE MUST KEEP THE
DANGEROUS WEAPONS WE STORE
HERE OUT OF THEIR HANDS UNTIL
WE CAN FORMULATE A
COUNTERATTACK!

AND WHAT
BETTER PLACE
TO HIDE THEM
THAN IN THE
TIMESTREAM--

ALERT... ALERT...
RECEIVING A
TRANSMISSION
FROM THE TIME
PORTAL.

WAIT.
WHAT'S
THAT?

THE TIME PORTAL? BUT
HOW? SOMEONE MUST
HAVE ACTIVATED IT
REMOTELY!

WHOEVER
COULD NAVIGATE
THE TIMESTREAM SO
APTLY COULD BE
A DIRE THREAT!



MR.
FANTASTIC,
INVISIBLE WOMAN...
IT'S SO GOOD TO
SEE YOU
AGAIN!

NOW, I'M
GOING TO NEED
TO BORROW THE
ULTIMATE NULLIFIER
FOR A BIT.

WHAMMM

UNNGGGHHH.

I DON'T KNOW
WHO YOU ARE, BUT DO
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST
COME HERE AND TAKE
THE MOST POWERFUL
WEAPON IN THE
UNIVERSE?

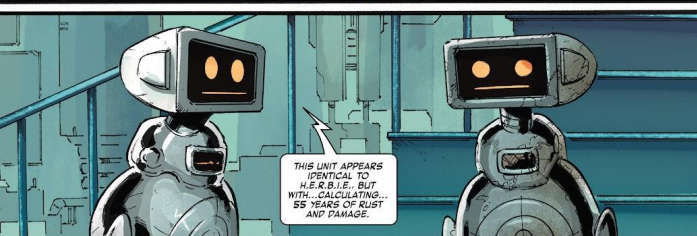
WAIT...
WAIT! IT'S
ME! PETER
QUILL!

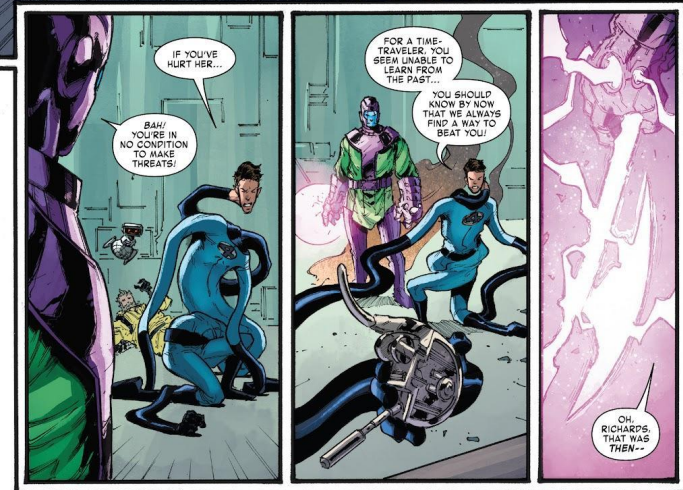
YOU KNOW,
STAR-LORD,
THE DASHING AND FLUCKY
LEADER OF THE
GUARDIANS OF THE
GALAXY?

FORGIVE ME
IF YOU ARE INDEED
WHO YOU CLAIM
TO BE...

...BUT YOU
SURE DON'T
LOOK LIKE THE
PETER QUILL
WE KNOW.

BAM



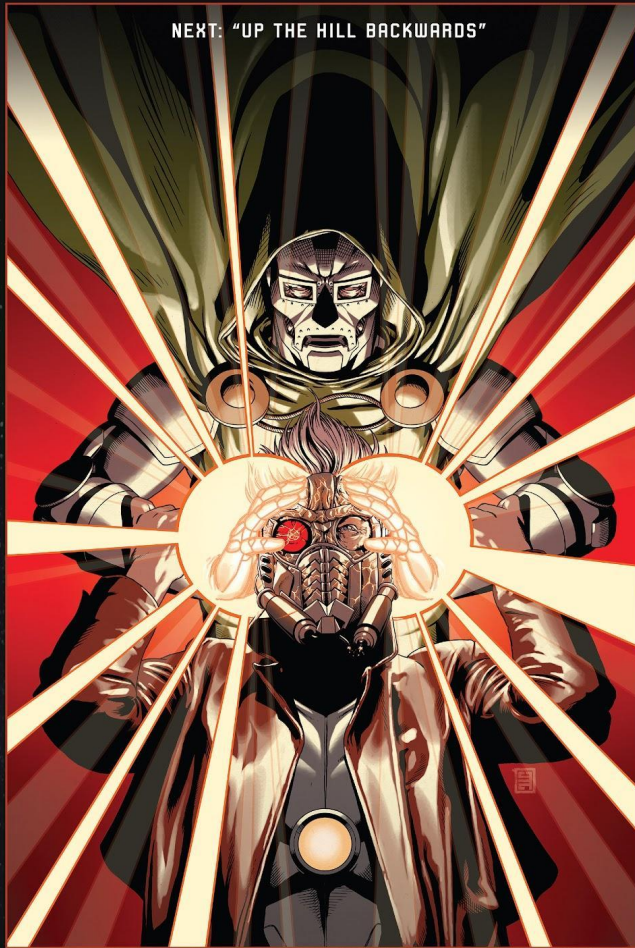








NEXT: "UP THE HILL BACKWARDS"

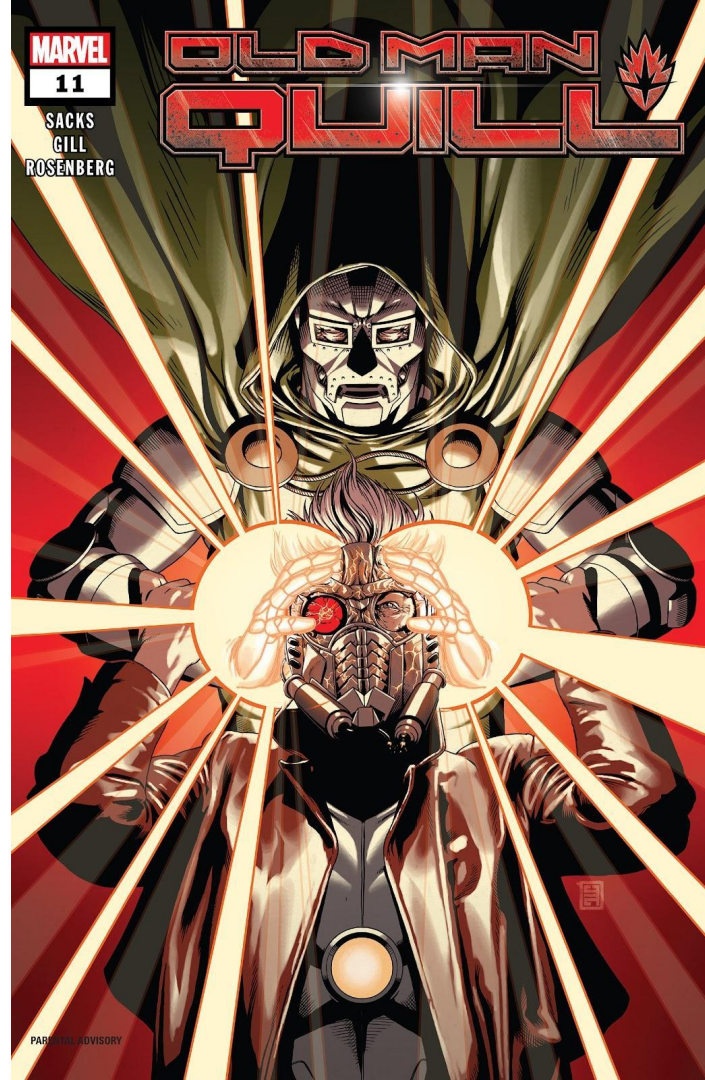


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MARVEL
11

SACKS
GILL
ROSENBERG

OLD MAN QUILL



PARENTAL ADVISORY

PETER QUILL—BORN ON EARTH TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND ALIEN FATHER—SET OUT FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE AMONG THE STARS AS STAR-LOARD. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY AND SPENT YEARS FIGHTING AND DEFENDING WITH THE RACIST GROUP OF MISFITS.

EVENTUALLY, LIFE TOOK HIM DOWN A NEW PATH. PETER TOOK OVER FROM HIS FATHER AS EMPEROR OF THE PLANET SPARTAN, CHOSE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SWASHBUCKLING ANTICS OF HIS PAST, STARTED A FAMILY, AND HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH THE GUARDIANS.

NOW HE IS SIMPLY...

OLD MAN QUILL

"UP THE HILL BACKWARDS"

WHEN PETER QUILL'S STRATEGIC MISCALCULATION LEFT HIS PLANET UNDEFENDED, THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH, NOW SERVING AS THE HERALDS OF GALACTUS, DESTROYED SPARTAN. BLAMING HIMSELF, QUILL SPENT YEARS IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE...ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GALAXY, GUARDIANS GAMORRA, DRAK, MANTIS, AND ROCKET DIED FIGHTING THE CHURCH'S FORCES. IN THEIR LAST MOMENTS THEY TRANSMITTED A MESSAGE TO QUILL WITH THE INFORMATION HE'D NEED TO LOCATE THE ULTIMATE NULLIFIER, THE ONE WEAPON CAPABLE OF DEFEATING GALACTUS.

HALLUCINATING THAT THE GUARDIANS WERE HELPING HIM ON HIS QUEST, QUILL FAILED TO RETRIEVE THE NULLIFIER. AFTER BATTLING THE CHURCH'S IMPERIAL GUARD, HE NARROWLY ESCAPED BY RIPPING A HOLE IN THE TIMESTREAM. QUILL THEN PARTNERED WITH VIV VISION AND HER REBEL FORCES FOR A LAST-DITCH EFFORT: USE THE RIP IN THE TIMESTREAM TO TRAVEL TO THE PAST AND RETRIEVE THE NULLIFIER FROM THE FANTASTIC FOUR. WHILE VIV AND HER REBELS FENCED OFF ODOM'S FORCES IN THE PRESENT, QUILL FOUND HIS EFFORTS IN THE PAST THWARTED DUE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF H.E.R.B.I.E., HIS TICKET HOME...

WRITER...//**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...//**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...//**RACHELLE ROSENBERG**

LETTERER...//**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

COVER ARTIST...//**JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER**

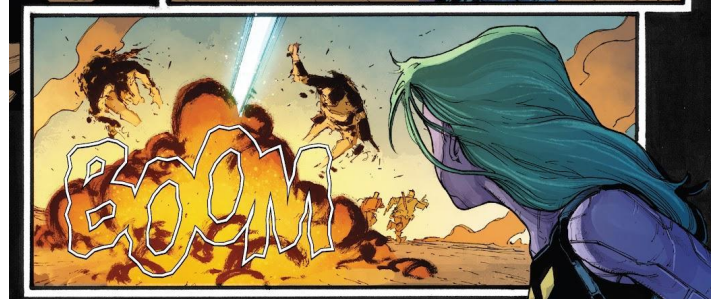
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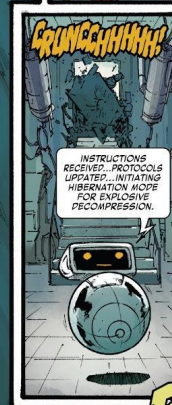
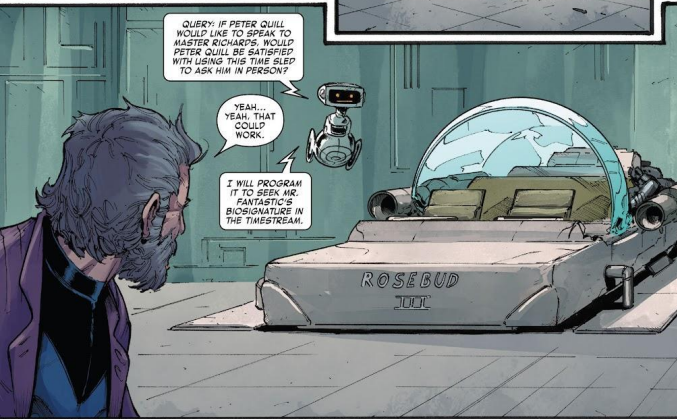
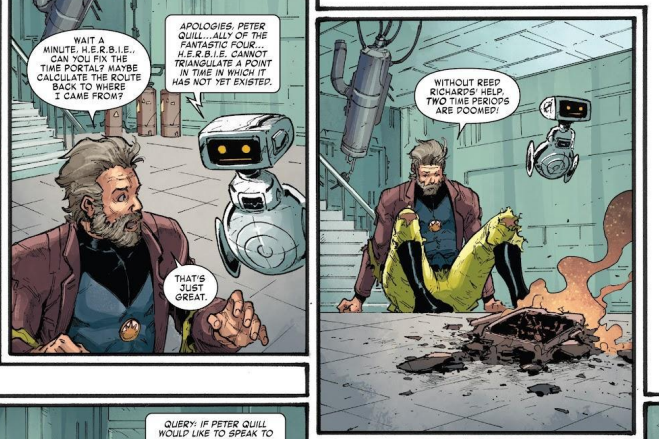
Note: The events of this story take place after OLD MAN HAWKEYE and the original OLD MAN LOGAN.

DEEP IN THE
WASTELANDS.
NOW.









DAREDEVIL #60
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It's DD at his ar

HULK #124: B
married? The
the revenge

IRON MAN #3
namo isn't dea
clad monstros

SUB-MARINE
and only Dr.
them defeat

SGT. FURY
the top sea
only the H
gether!

CAPT. SAM
Simon Say
camp in the

CHAMBER
is park—
Marvel's
tales yet

MARVEL
F.F.—fig
Marine
Strang

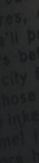
RAWH
MILLI
MAD
STOR

didn't think
just vanish
matter of fact,
of your ubiquit-
in—ahh, but
on you'll have
ending him for

lives, also! Re-
SMITH? Well,
we've been breath-
y from merrie
entirely different
superhero scrib-
it in TOWER OF
I'll draw it at mid-
house, with a pen
now, we'll eat our

people who live—the
ed! During the 69
and recently at New
Hilton Hotel, who
Why, none other than
ar, Marvel's own gifted
the speeches, see
about old times with
but our Leader, loaded
there, couldn't make
he'll probably have to
years before we can
the city from those
those who enter
more to come to
worth

For months
you about
shoved a
Well, the
ter what
great g
mags a
they so
most
to new
or ho
artists
artists
their
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petiti
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mo
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So
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Joe
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worth



draw ol' Greenskin—claiming that even Irving Forbush could do a better job. If they were writing to the FANTASTIC FOUR, we'd swear they're Yancy Streeters. But the odd thing is this—WE think Herb's one of the greatest additions to our stupefying staff since Raquel Welch (No, Norman—she isn't working here. Calm down)—and she's been climbing ever since the little claws

draw ol' Greenskin—claiming that even
lrvng Forbush could do a better job. If
they were writing to the FANTASTIC FOUR,
we'd swear they're Yancy Streeleers. But
the odd thing is this—WE think Herb's one
of the greatest additions to our stupeyin'
staff since Raquel Welch (No, Norman—
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she ain't climbing over no little clav-

HULK #124: B
married? The F
the revenge-cr

IRON MAN #
name isn't dea
clad monstro

SUB-MARINE
and only Dr.
them defeat
FURY

SGT. FORT
the top se
only the H
gether!

CAPT. SA
Simon Sav
camp in th

CHAMBER
is dark—
Marvel's
tales yet

MARVEL
F.F.—fin
Marine

respect
lives—
d. I. and

most won- MILLI
MAD
STOP

that even

STIC FOUR,
reeters. But
Herb's one

HOW IS THIS SLED ABLE TO MOVE THROUGH THE TIMESTREAM?

OH, IT'S SIMPLE
COSMIC PHYSICS. REALLY.
QUILL...PETER QUILL. WHY
THIS HERE TIME SLED IS
POWERED BY A FRAGMENT
OF THE--

THE TIME
STONE

WITH THAT
I CAN GO BACK
AND SAVE MY FAMILY!
I CAN SAVE THE
GUARDIANS!

OH, I'M
AFRAID THAT IS
QUITE IMPOSSIBLE
QUILL...PETER
QUILL!

IT'S JUST A SURVIVING FRAGMENT AMPLIFIED BY REED'S TECH. IF USED OUTSIDE THIS SLED ENGINE, THE BEST YOU COULD DO IS MOVE SIX SECONDS BACK AND FORTH IN TIME...

--AND TO USE THIS SLED, YOU WOULD NEED EXACT COORDINATES, WHICH WE DON'T HAVE. SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

OH.

WOULD YOU FORGET YOUR FAMILY ALREADY? YOU'VE HAD FIFTY YEARS TO GET OVER THEM! BUT YOU CAN SAVE THE EARTH IF YOU JUST FIND THE DAMN NULLIFIER.

EASY FOR
YOU TO SAY--
YOU'RE NOT EVE
REAL! YOU'RE A
MANIFESTATION
OF MY GUILT.

ARE
YOU WELL,
QUILL...PETER
QUILL?

TIME TRAVEL
CAN AFFECT THE
HUMAN BRAIN IN ALL
SORTS OF WAYS, FROM
FATAL CEREBRAL EMBOLISM
TO HALLUCINATIONS.
AND THEN MAYBE
EMBOLISMS.

HUH, THAT
DOESN'T SOUND
GOOD!

ARE YOU, THOUGH?

I'M FINE.
DAMN IT!

LET'S
JUST SAVE MR.
FANTASTIC AND THE
INVISIBLE WOMAN, GET
THE ULTIMATE NULLIFIER
AND WORRY ABOUT
EVERYTHING ELSE
AFTERWARD

I SEE
SOMETHIN'
UP AHEAD

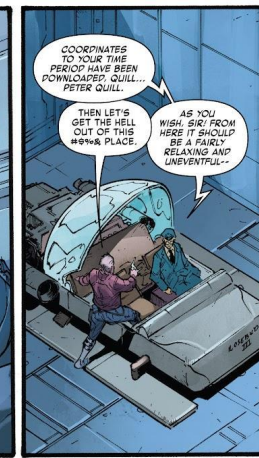
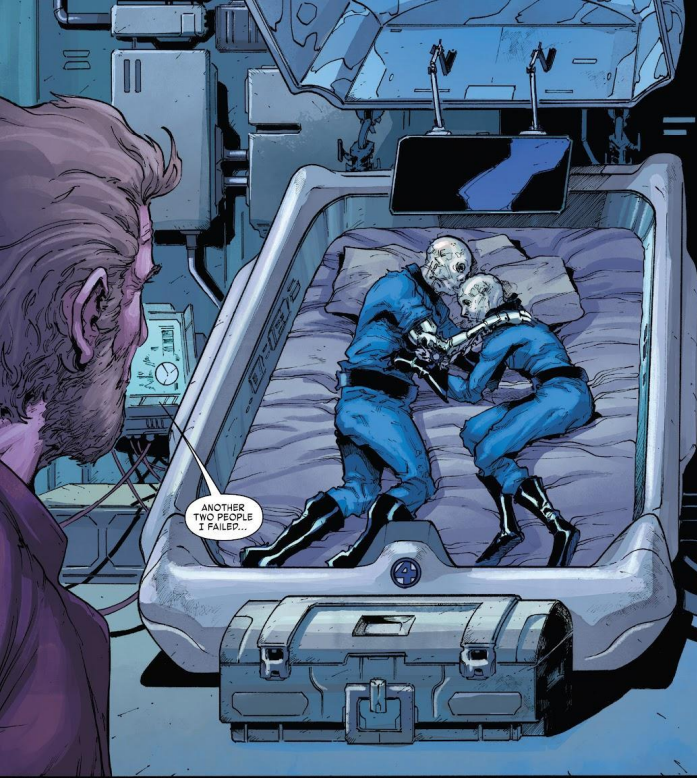
IS THAT
AN ASTER
FIELD?

IT LOOKS
LIKE DEBRIS
FROM THE BAXTER
BUILDING LAB...
MUST HAVE BEEN
BLOWN OUT WITH
THE RICHARDESSES
WHEN KANG
ATTACKED

WAIT,
SEE A POD
SOME KIND
AHEAD

YOU DID
IT, REEP...SUE!
YOU FOUND A

WOULD YOU FORGET YOUR FAMILY ALREADY? YOU'VE HAD FIFTY YEARS TO GET OVER THEM! BUT YOU CAN SAVE THE EARTH IF YOU JUST FIND THE DAMN NULLIFIER.













"YOU'VE
DOOMED
US ALL!"

TO BE CONCLUDED!



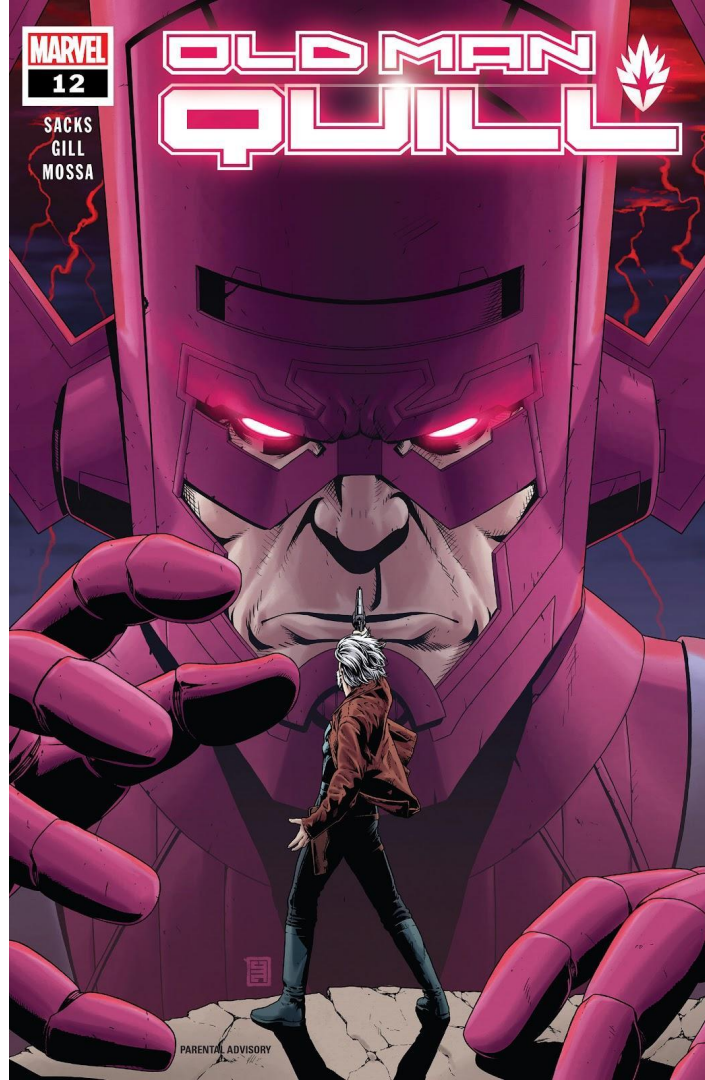
NEXT: "SPIRIT IN THE SKY"

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MARVEL
12

SACKS
GILL
MOSSA

OLD MAN QUILL



PARENTAL ADVISORY

PETER QUILL—BORN ON EARTH TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND ALIEN FATHER—SET OUT FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE AMONG THE STARS AS STAR-LOAD. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY AND SPENT YEARS FIGHTING AND DEFENDING WITH THE RAGTAG GROUP OF MISFITS.

EVENTUALLY, LIFE TOOK HIM DOWN A NEW PATH. PETER TOOK OVER FROM HIS FATHER AS EMPEROR OF THE PLANET SPARTAN, CHOSE RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SWASHBUCKLING ANTICS OF HIS PAST, STARTED A FAMILY, AND HAD A FALLING-OUT WITH THE GUARDIANS.

NOW HE IS SIMPLY...

OLD MAN QUILL

"SPIRIT IN THE SKY"

AFTER SPENDING YEARS IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE WHEN THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF TRUTH, SERVING AS THE HERALDS OF GALACTUS, DESTROYED HIS PLANET, SPARTAN, PETER QUILL IS ON ONE LAST MISSION: TO SAVE EARTH FROM THE SAME FATE.

HALLUCINATING THAT THE DECEASED GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY WERE HELPING HIM ON HIS QUEST, QUILL MADE IT TO EARTH AND MANAGED TO USE A FRAGMENT OF THE TIME STONE FOUND IN THE RUINS OF THE BAXTER BUILDING TO RETRIEVE THE ULTIMATE NULLIFIER, THE ONLY ITEM THAT COULD STOP GALACTUS.

ALONG THE WAY, QUILL'S HEROIC DEEDS HAVE ATTRACTED ATTENTION, RESULTING IN DR. DOOM, OVERLORD OF THE WASTELANDS, PERSONALLY HUNTING DOWN THIS "HERO" TO QUELL THE DISSENT HE'S INSPIRED. IN HIS HUBRIS, DOOM DESTROYED THE ULTIMATE NULLIFIER, THINKING QUILL WAS PLOTTING AGAINST HIM, EVEN AS GALACTUS NEARS THE EARTH...

WRITER...**ETHAN SACKS**

ARTIST...**ROBERT GILL**

COLORIST...**ANDRES MOSSA**

LETTERER...**VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA**

COVER ARTIST...**JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER**

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Note: The events of this story take place after OLD MAN HAWKEYE and the original OLD MAN LOGAN.

DEEP IN THE
WASTELANDS.

WHAT HAVE YOU
DONE? THAT...HURK...
ULTIMATE NULLIFIER
WAS THE EARTH'S ONLY
HOPE AGAINST...
GALACTUS!

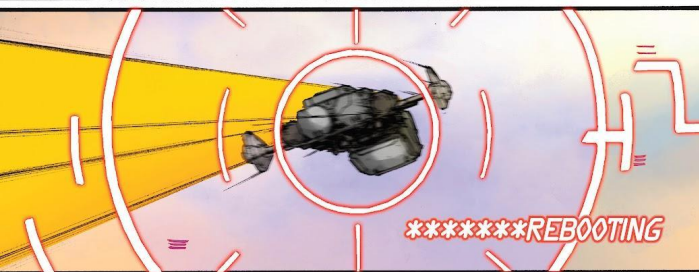
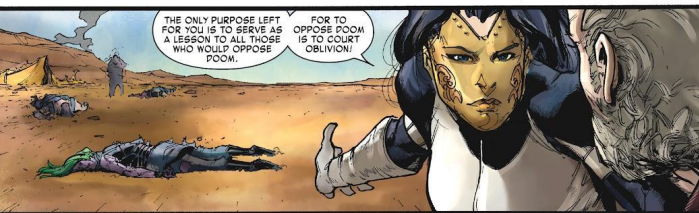
DO YOU
EXPECT LORD
DOOM TO BELIEVE
YOUR BOGEYMAN
TALES?

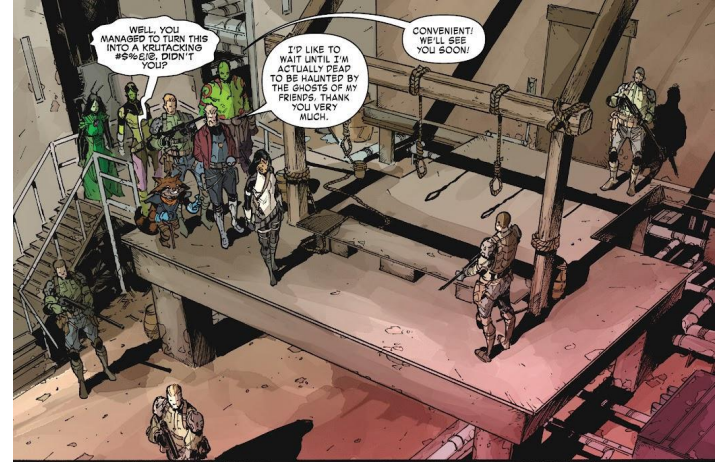
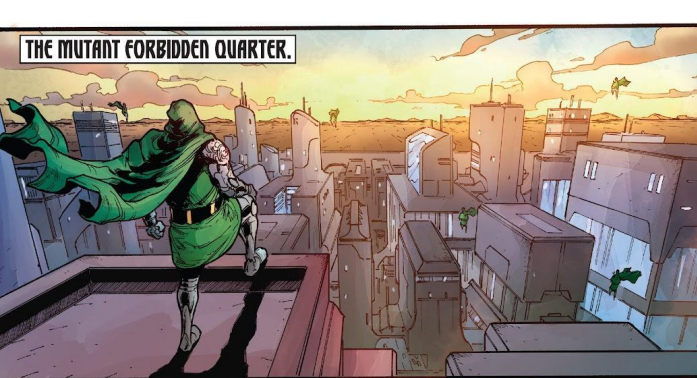
WE
KNOW YOU WERE
PLANNING ON USING
THE WEAPON
AGAINST US.

SEARCH
HIM!

COME ON.
THE STONE
DON'T FALL BE
NOW.

THHHHEEEERRRRREEE
IISSSSSSS--





FISH LAKE CITY.



DESPITE THE
GENEROSITY OF
LORD POOM IN
PROVIDING HIS PEOPLE
WITH FOOD AND
SHELTER...

...THERE ARE
SOME AMONG
YOU WHO WOULD
BITE THE HAND
THAT FEEDS!



BISHOP SANCTUARY.

NO, HE IS
ACTUALLY AN
EXAMPLE. A
CAUTIONARY TALE
OF WHAT HAPPENS
TO THOSE WHO
DEFY POOM.



SOMEONE
WHO SHOULD HAVE
STAYED GUINPING
THE BRIGHTER
SIDE OF THE
GALAXY...

PASTE POT CREEK.



BUT HE IS
ANYTHING BUT
A HERO.

NO, IT
CAN'T BE! HE
WAS SUPPOSED TO
SAVE US. GAVE THE
#B&B MY FAMILY
GUN...

TONYA'S GARAGE, HAMMER FALLS.



I SAID
SHUT IT
OFF!

YEAH, HOW
ABOUT...

STAN'S SOAPBOX • APRIL 1972

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

These brief, random thoughts are being written just a short time after the Attica State Prison tragedy. Now I've no intention of imposing my own opinions upon you about which side, which party or parties might have been right or wrong. Instead, I'd like to discuss the theory of "right or wrong" itself. Is it possible that too much harm, too much injustice has been caused in the name of "right" — in the pursuit of combating "wrong"? In every human conflict, isn't each disputant completely convinced that his particular cause is wholly "right" while the opposing viewpoint is totally "wrong"? And, armed with the sense of being "in the right," don't we dogmatically attempt to impose our own will upon those who hold different convictions? But, what if we had no such hang-ups about right and wrong? What if we remember that what's right for here may be wrong for there? In fact, what's right for you may be wrong for me — and what's right for today may be wrong for some other time. "Right" to a liberal is politically "wrong" to a conservative, just as "wrong" to a labor leader can be "right" to an industrialist, or "right" to a child can seem "wrong" to a parent. Yet, I wonder what life would be like if we weren't so preoccupied with proving ourselves right and the other guy wrong. I wonder if we might not find the peace, the understanding we all seek by striving to relate to each other, to sympathize with each other's problems, to reach out to those who may differ from ourselves and to realize that they too may be "right" in their own way, from their own point of reference. I wonder — mightn't it be worth a try? Excelsior!



STAN LEE, starting FOREVER 1972, and becoming a Sup...

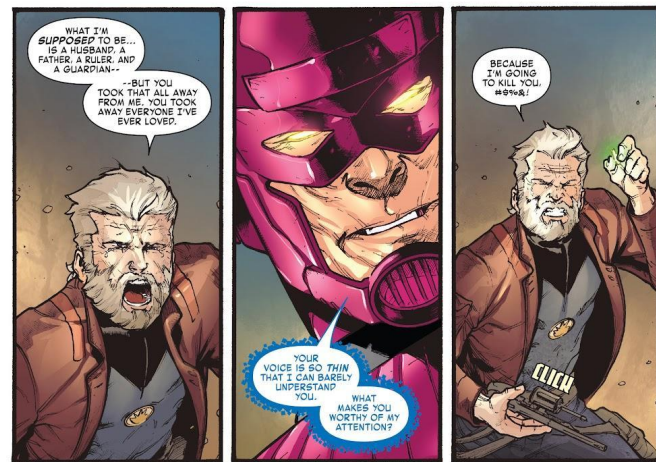
even all-father God... we gave you a pig... those free steaks... please!... Peace, people.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL

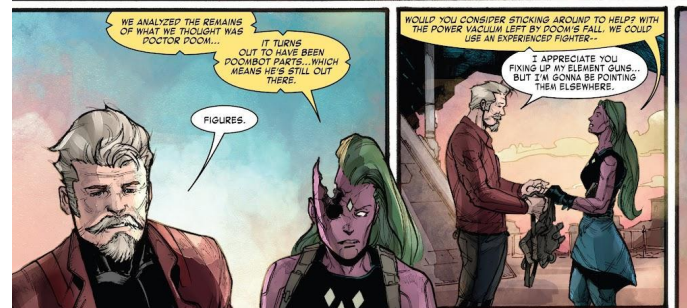
- FANTASTIC FOUR #121: The... blow his horn! The earth... destruction! The F.F. battle... before! And then — but that... see for yourself!
- SPIDER-MAN #107: The... Spider-Slayer Sagal! The... smashes thru — to one of... victories! But his triumph... as tragedy overtakes Flash T...
- THOR #198: The Death of... then, as Asgard reels, re-em... — and the sinister Colonize... of unparalleled greatness!
- AVENGERS #98: Here com... hawks. And wait! If you lea... of their mysterious lin... long-lost Avengers return t...
- HULK #150: The return... called — Havok! The magi... Lorna Danel Plus — of G... rampage! It's action, cove...
- CAPTAIN AMERICA and #148: The Red Skull! The Kingpin! And a newly-aw... This one's got it all!
- DAREDEVIL #85: Remo... nous Ox? Well, he's ba... breathtaking Black... better hurry — 'cause D... York!
- SUB-MARINER #48: N... — and murderous Mo... The quest for the Cos... a mind-staggering ci...
- IRON MAN #46: Iron... in murder! The battl... busting Guardsman... death of a superhero... one!
- ASTONISHING TALE... full, never-before-rev... Zar and Zabu! Plus... battle ever, with — M...
- SGT. FURY #57: T... shocked wind-up o... epic of all! But — w... enough to see the

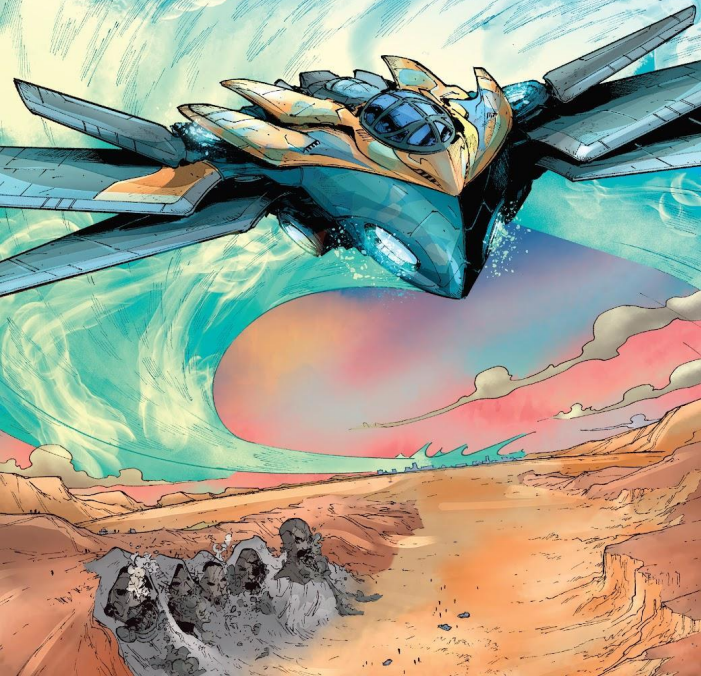
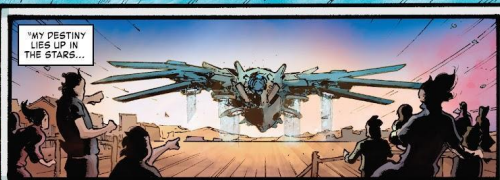












A NEW BEGINNING!

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

These OLD MAN stories are absolutely incredible! Peter's journey took one of the best twists when he was confronted with the reality that the Guardians were already dead! The best part of these stories to me is that the (anti?) heroes keep pressing on in the face of impossible odds. Often they have almost no one left to fight for, but they press on because that's what heroes do! Thank you for these stories!

Mike Bickle

Glad you're enjoying these stories and the twist paid off for you!

I been following OLD MAN QUILL because OLD MAN HAWKEYE was so good. I appreciate how they both died in with OLD MAN LOGAN. I love that Dr Doom was brought back into the picture, too. I'm not a big Quill fan but I'm really enjoying this run and I will continue to support this series and hopefully many more Old Man and/or maybe Old Woman series to come in the future. Thanks!

Sacirilo82

We appreciate that support, and we've got an OLD MAN/OLD WOMAN series just around the corner we hope you'll check out...

I love the OLD MAN storylines and reading OLD MAN QUILL, there's a lot of unanswered questions. Questions that have been burning in the back of my mind such as: what happened to Deadpool, is he dead is he alive? What became of the Life-Model Decoys? And will there ever be anyone that's able to lift Thor's hammer? Will we ever find the answers to these questions, Marvel? P.S. please say yes!

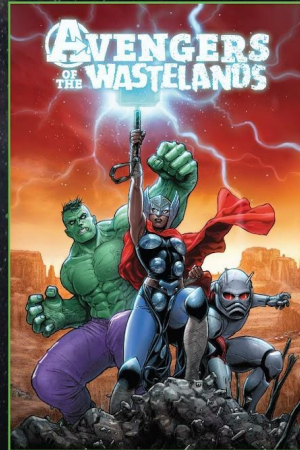
Eric

Well, Eric, you may already know this by now if you've read DEAD MAN LOGAN...but YES, in a desperate moment, one Danielle Cage (daughter of Luke Cage and Jessica Jones) was able to lift the Mighty Mjolnir and become the new THOR!

Which leads us neatly into that next story I hinted at above—our Wastelands saga continues next month with AVENGERS OF THE WASTELANDS #1, by Ed Brisson, Jonas Scharf, and Neeraj Menon! Set after the events of DEAD MAN LOGAN and all of the OLD MAN books, we're getting into all-new territory as a new glimmer of hope arises in the Wastelands. But who are these new Avengers? And how do they figure into Dr. Doom's endgame? And, can they all be trusted?

While you ponder those possibilities, check out the cover to #1 by Juan José Ryp and Jesus Aburtov below, and look out for it when it touches down in the new year! Until then...

—Mark



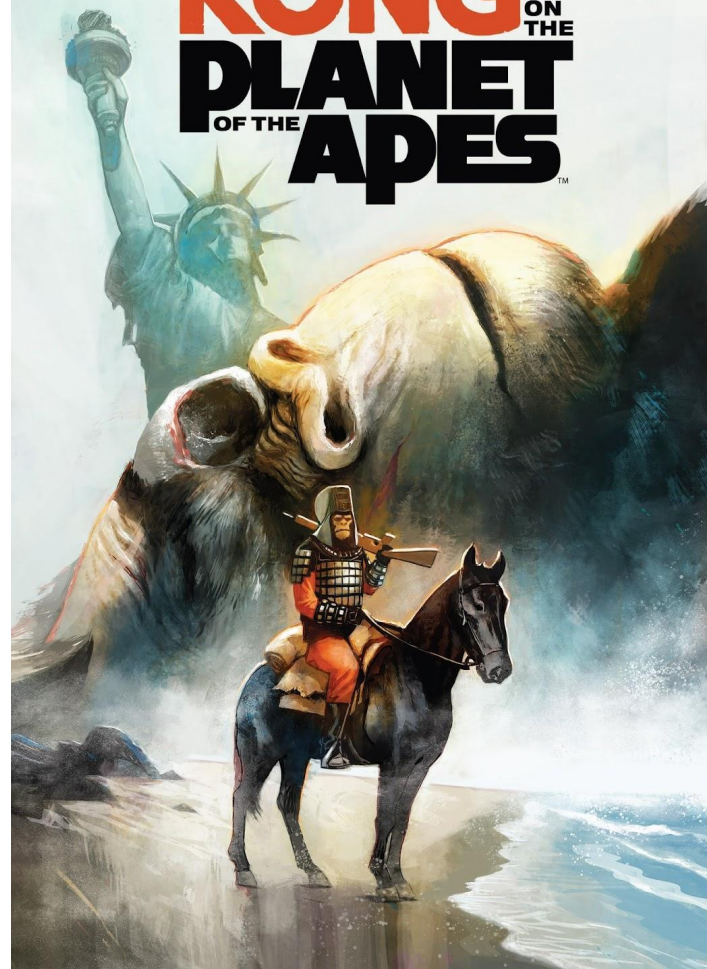
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ONE
OF SIX

KONGTM ON THE PLANET OF THE APESTM



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RYAN FERRIER

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CARLOS MAGNO

COLORS BY
ALEX GUIMARÃES

LETTERS BY
ED DUKESHIRE

COVER
MIKE HUDDLESTON

CONNECTING COVER
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SUBSCRIPTION COVER
HANS WOODY
WITH DESIGN BY **DYLAN TODD**

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ASSISTANT EDITOR
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EDITOR
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JOE DEVITO

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**THE FORBIDDEN
ZONE.**

PICK UP THE PACE,
USING THE MIDDAY SUN
WILL SOON BATTER YOU
AND YOUR SOLDIERS. WE
HAVE A LOT OF GROUND
TO COVER.

WHAT LOOMS
YET OVER THIS
WASTELAND IS
THE GREATEST
THREAT TO OUR
MISSION.

THE
GREATEST SYMBOL
OF MAN'S CRUELTY
AND ARROGANCE.

HALT!

TAYLOR MAY
HAVE OPENED
A BOX, BUT WE
WILL SEAL IT
SHUT.

FOR THE
GOOD OF
APEKIND!









"MY TRUST IN
DR. ZAUS HAS
EXPIRED."



"COME ON,
CORNELIUS? ARE
YOU NOT EXCITED
FOR WHAT THIS
COULD MEAN?"

"WITH THE
PROPER TIME,
WE COULD PROVE
A NEW STAGE IN
EVOLUTION! OR A
MISSING LINK!"

"IT VERY WELL COULD
BE, OR A SCIENTIFIC
IRREGULARITY, ZIRA.
A FLUKE."

"OR THAT
GOD WAS REAL,
AND SHE WAS
LIKE US."

"WHAT ARE WE
GONNA DO WITH
THE REMAINS,
GENERAL?"

"GENERAL?"

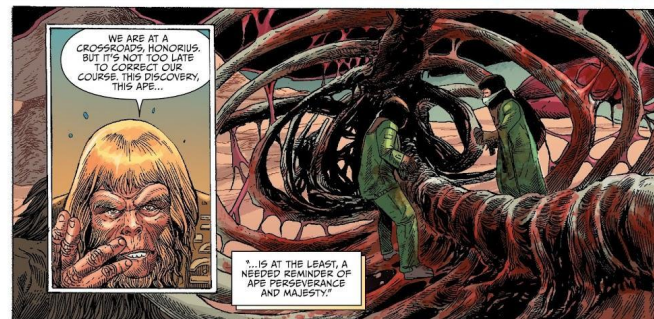
"SUCH
POWER, AT THE
WILL OF THIS NEEK.
WE SHOULD BE
BUILDING A SHRINE,
NOT DISSECTING
IT."



"WE OUGHT TO
VOTE YOU OUT OF
THIS COUNCIL,
ZAUS."

"A TALKING
HUMAN RAN
RAMPANT ON
YOUR WATCH,
STIRRING
FERVENT
DISCORD IN
OUR CITY..."

"...AND YET YOU PROPOSE AN
EXPEDITION BEYOND THE
FORBIDDEN ZONE IN LIGHT OF
AN UNEXPLAINED ANOMALY?"



"WE ARE AT A
CROSSROADS, HONORIUS.
BUT IT'S NOT TOO LATE
TO CORRECT OUR
COURSE. THIS DISCOVERY,
THIS APE..."

"...IS AT THE LEAST, A
NEEDED REMINDER OF
APE PERSEVERANCE
AND MAJESTY."



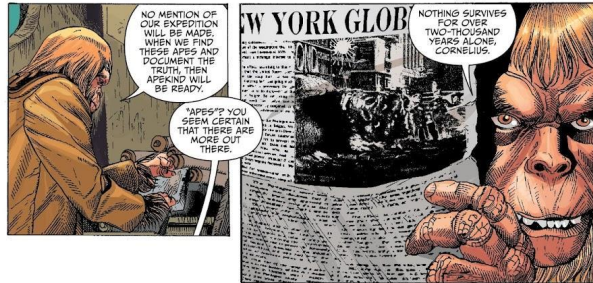
"AND WHAT DO
YOU SUGGEST
AT MOST? A
SIGN FROM
GOD?"

"APE IS THE SUPERIOR,
DOMINANT SPECIES. WE
NEED NOT PROVE
THAT, ZAUS."

"NO, A SIGN IS
MEANINGLESS WITHOUT
PROOF, MAXIMUS."

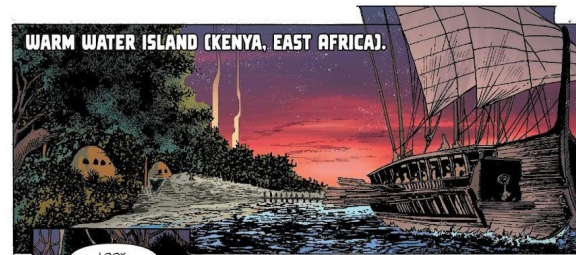
"WHAT IF
IT IS THE
GOD?"

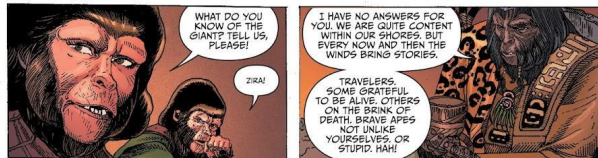




THREE DAYS LATER.













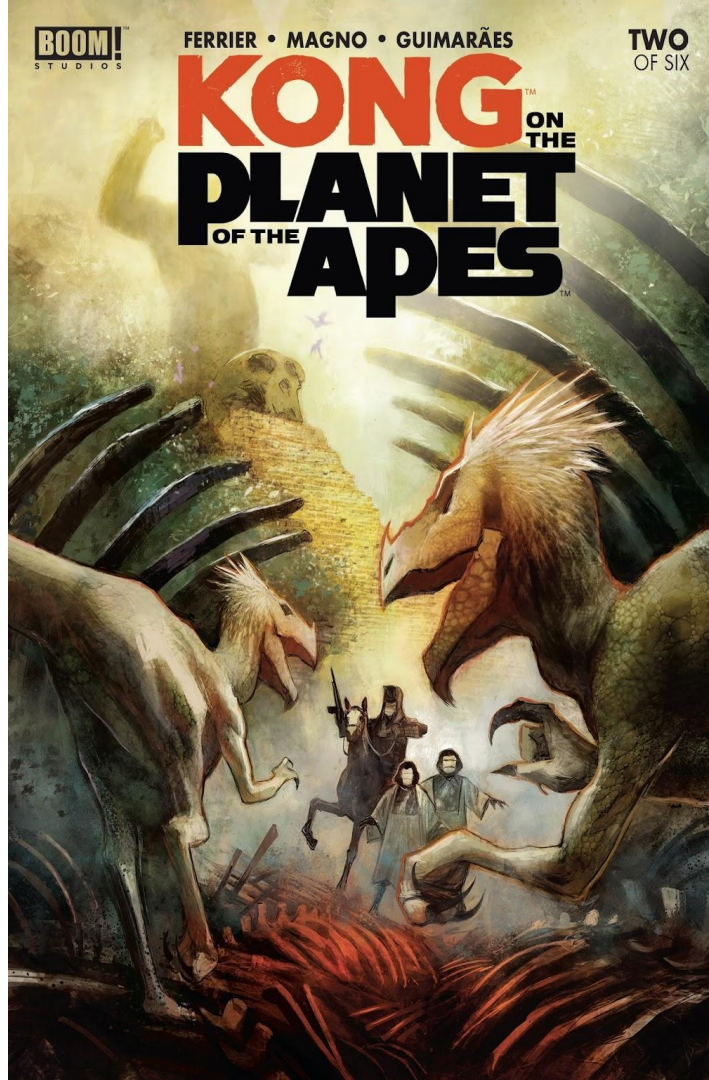
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ALEX GUIMARÃES

LETTERS BY
ED DUKESHIRE

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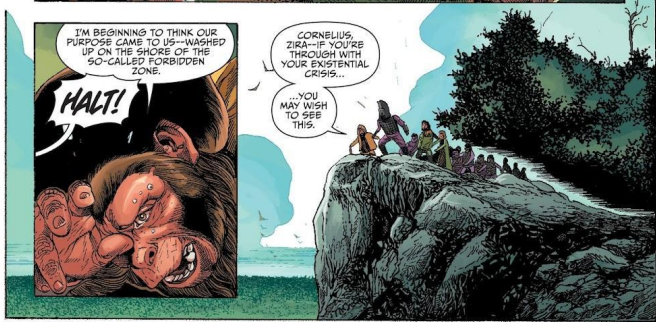
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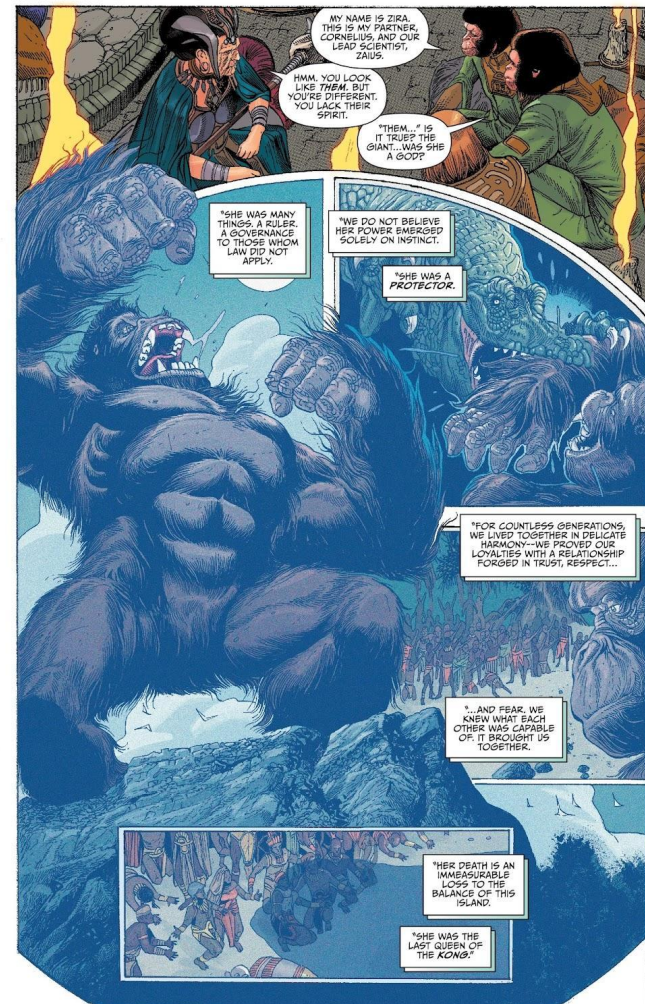






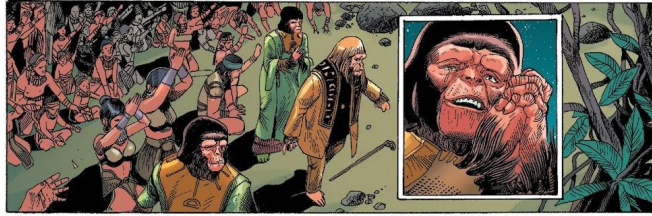








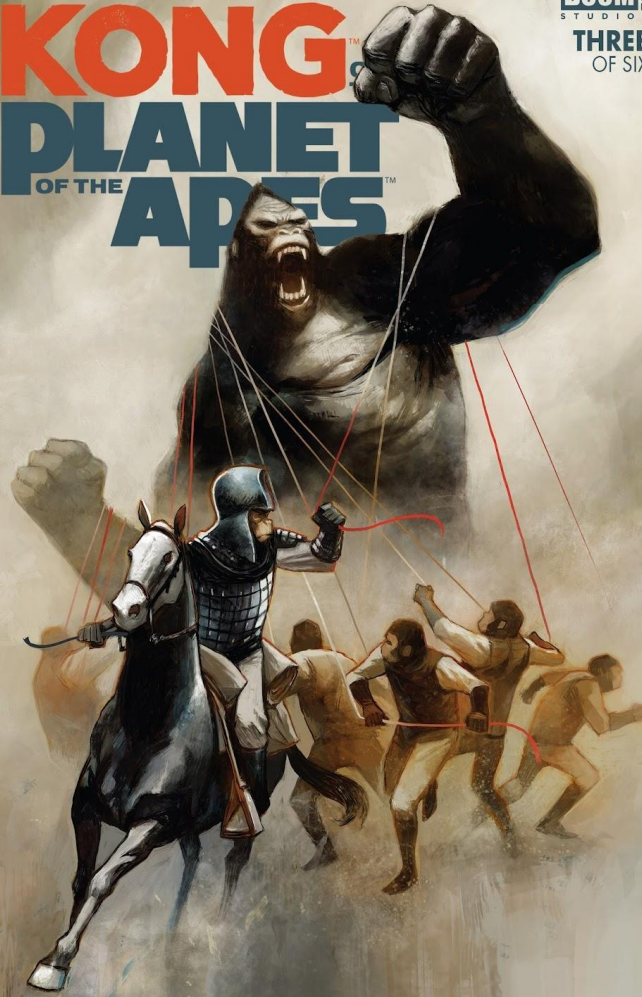




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OF SIX



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IT'S AS IF HE SENSES SOMETHING IN US, DOCTOR. DIFFERENT THAN THE HUMANS.

HE IS MORE LIKE US THAN THOSE HE'S LIVED WITH-- PROTECTED--FOR CENTURIES.

YOU MIGHT SAY IT CONFIRMS MY GREATEST WISH--AN UNDERSTANDING--OR MY GREATEST FEAR--GIVING INTO SOMETHING ELSE COMPLETELY.

CORNELIUS, I APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO APPROVE AND PROCESS THIS WITH AN OPEN HEART. YOU'VE REDEEMED YOURSELF IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

BUT...I NEED MY SCIENTISTS STRONG, WITH RESOLVE.

WE HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN UNLOCKING THIS GREAT MYSTERY. THIS IS SO IMPORTANT, DOCTOR.

LEST WE FORGET WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT, DOCTOR.



IT'S ALL FOR US, FOR APE CITY.

TO END THE FIGHTING, TO SOLIDIFY A HISTORY BUILT ON WEAK FOUNDATIONS AND BLOODSHED.



WE CANNOT THRUST THIS ONTO THEM. ONE SIDE MAY SPIN IT TO FIT THEIR OWN AGENDA, OR USE IT AGAINST US.

WE MUST BE TACTFUL IN HOW WE RETURN. HOW CAN WE ENSURE THE...TRUTH STAYS THAT WAY?

SCIENCE AND FAITH WERE NEVER MEANT TO FIT AN AGENDA. THEY ARE MEANT TO SIMPLY BE.

THAT'S WHAT MAKES SOMETHING TRUE. IT'S SIMPLY UNDENIABLE.

IN THE END, THAT'S WHAT REMAINS, OR SO I SHOULD HOPE.



I HAVE NOT SEEN HIM LIKE THIS.

OH! NITA, YOU STARTLED ME.

HE'S NOT USUALLY AS PRESENT. YOU HAVE STIRRED SOMETHING IN HIM.



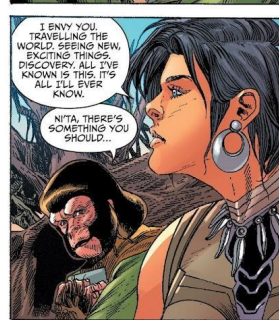
YOU ARE ALSO A DISTRACTION. WHEN HIS QUEEN WENT MISSING, HE BEGAN MOURNING. IN A WAY, WE BELIEVE HE GRIEVES FOR ALL KONGS PASSED.

I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ARRIVAL. HE'S NEVER CONNECTED LIKE THIS BEFORE. HE'S FEELING PEACE.



YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO INDULGE US IN OUR SEARCH, BUT YOU DID. YOU WELCOMED US WHEN YOU DIDN'T HAVE.

WE ARE A PEACEFUL RACE, DOCTOR. ZIA, IT'S SIMPLY LOGICAL.



I ENVY YOU TRAVELLING THE WORLD, SEEING NEW, EXCITING THINGS. DISCOVERY. ALL I'VE KNOWN IS THIS. IT'S ALL I'LL EVER KNOW.

NITA, THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD...



SOMETIMES OTHERS AREN'T AS WELCOMING OR PEACEFUL. SOMETIMES NEW WORLDS SHOULDN'T BE FOUND.

YOU NEED TO STAY HERE, WITH YOUR PEOPLE. YOUR FAMILIES.



BUT, ZIA, YOU YOURSELF HAVE TRAV--

I'VE DONE TH-- WE'VE DONE THINGS. OUR PEOPLE, IT'S JUST...IT'S NOT FOR VISITORS. NOT SOMEONE LIKE YOU. TRUST ME.

EXCUSE ME. I HAVE WORK TO DO.



SOME TIME LATER.



HOLD ONTO 'IM! YOU WANNA GET ME KILLED OUT HERE?

~SHUFF~ I'M TRYIN'! DAMN THING'S TOO STRONG!

AHH, LET'S JUST PUT A BULLET IN HIS PEA BRAIN.



KEEP IT ALIVE! FILL THE PENS ABOARD THE CARGO HOLD, APE-UP AND SUBDUCE THE CREATURE, SOLDIER.

Y-YES, GENERAL! RIGHT AWAY!

THERE IS NOTHING IN THIS WORLD APE CANNOT CONQUER. ARGUS, TO BE A GOOD GENERAL, THAT MUST DRIVE YOUR EVERY DECISION.

OTHERWISE, YOU ARE MERELY THE FACE FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S BOOT.

I UNDERSTAND, URSUS.



GENERAL! WE HAVE WHAT APPEARS TO BE SHIPS APPROACHING! DEAD AHEAD!

AH, EXCELLENT. KEEP ALERT, SOLDIER.



SHOULD WE TAKE POSITIONS, SIR?

NO, ARGUS.

GENERAL AMARI IS RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.



(AS KING OF THIS VILLAGE, IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO LEAD. TO ENSURE THE SURVIVAL OF OUR TRIBE.)

(A SENTIMENT I KNOW YOU BOTH HOLD DEAR.)

(AS SUCH, I GROW WEARY OF OUR VISITOR'S PRESENCE.)



(BUT, T'NEK, THEY ARE MERELY OBSERVING. THE KING SEEMS CONTENT WITH THEIR--)

(N'ITA, BE CAUTIOUS OF YOUR WORDS SPOKEN.)



(OBSERVING IS ONE THING, AND AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF PRESERVING ONE'S HISTORY, YOU BOTH CAN ATTEST.)

(BUT THEY ARE UNLIKE ANY OTHER VISITOR--THEY DISRUPT THE CALM WE'VE BUILT FOR GENERATIONS.)

(THEY CONJURE QUESTIONS WHICH WE WILL NOT SEEK ANSWERS FOR.)



(THEY HAVE SHOWN GREAT RESOLVE AND COURAGE COMING HERE, OUTSIDE OF THEIR OWN VILLAGE, IN THE SEARCH FOR KNOWLEDGE.)

(THAT IS SOMETHING WE CAN'T SAY FOR OURSELVES. I ADMIRE THEM.)



(WE ARE WALKING A DELICATE LINE, N'ITA. WE MUST BE MINDFUL AND OPEN TO THE WORLD AROUND US, OUR WORLD, BUT WE MUST ENSURE OUR SURVIVAL.)

(T'NEK'S CONCERNS COME FROM A PLACE OF PRESERVATION, AS STORYTELLER AND APPRENTICE, WE MUST HOLD FAST TO THE LAND AROUND US.)

(MAYBE I DON'T WANT TO BE THE APPRENTICE ANYMORE. MAYBE I SHOULD NEVER BE THE STORYTELLER.)



"IN OUR HOMELAND, WE STILL FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS OVER THOSE OF THE VERMIN THAT RUN OUR CROPS, PILLAGE OUR HOMES, DESTROY OUR BORDERS.

"THE NATURAL ORDER OF THINGS HAS BEEN DESECRATED. A REMINDER IS NEEDED OF WHO IS ON TOP WHO DOES THE CRUSHING.

"A SYMBOL OF FEAR AND INTIMIDATION OF STRENGTH.

"THE GIANT IT IS. IT WILL SHOW THE APES THEIR INNER VIRTUES. THEY WILL BE FORCED TO PICK A SIDE...

"...OR ELSE THEY WILL JOIN THE HUMANS AND BE TRAMPLED UNDER THE WEIGHT OF OUR EVOLUTION.

"NOW, APES—SHOW THESE FILTHY HUMANS WHERE APES STAND IN THIS WORLD...

"...AND SHOW NO MERCY!"

THE HUMANS HAVE DEMANDED WE LEAVE, CORNELIUS... NOW CAN YOU JUST STAND THERE COMPLACENT IN THAT?

AND WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO? HM, ZIRAP? THIS IS THEIR VILLAGE. WE ARE GUESTS.

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, WE ARE THE MINORITY HERE.

DON'T PATRONIZE ME. I KNOW WHERE WE ARE AND WHO I AM.

WE HAVE BEEN PARTNERS IN OUR STUDIES FOR SO LONG, CORNELIUS— BUT YOU ARE GOING DOWN A PATH I CANNOT BE A PART OF.

WHY, ZIRAP BRINGING THIS DISCOVERY TO OUR PEOPLE WILL BE OUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT. THIS IS SOMETHING WE'VE ONLY EVER DREAMED OF.

NO, OUR RESEARCH IS INCOMPLETE. WE MUST STAY. WE NEED ANSWERS— SCIENTIFIC ANSWERS!

WE ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF A GOD. IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SHARE THIS WITH APEKIND.

LOOK OUTSIDE. PEACE. HARMONY. CO-EXISTENCE. HE IS THE ANSWER FOR APE AND HUMANKIND.

ANSWERS. WE HAVE NO ANSWERS. YET. SIX MONTHS AGO YOU HELPED ME CARVE THE HUMANS UP.

A "GOD" YOU'VE ABANDONED LONG. CORNELIUS. ALL WE KNOW IS HE IS BIG...AND APEKIND'S REACH DIDN'T EXTEND TO THE ENTIRE PLANET.

AAHHEEE!

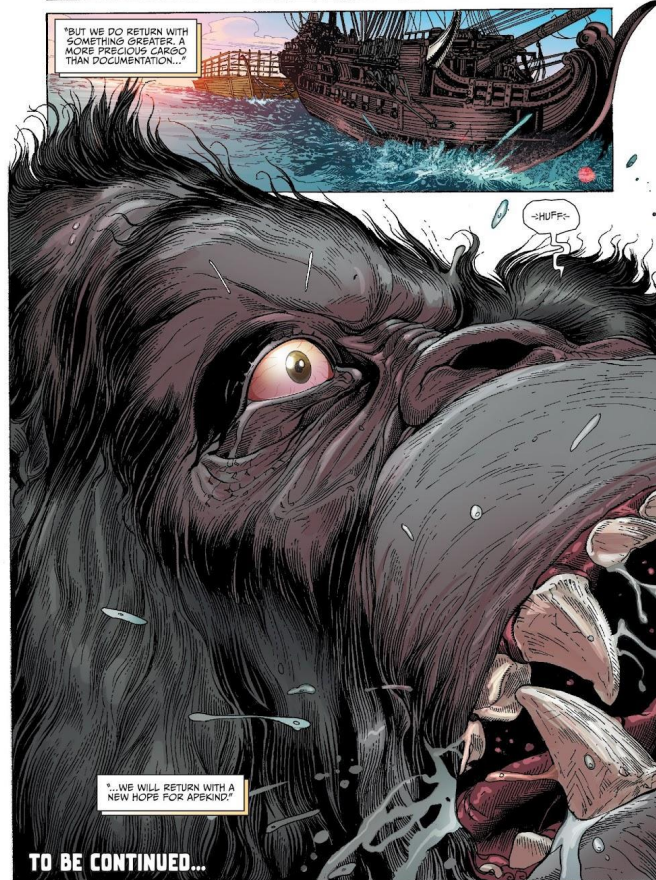
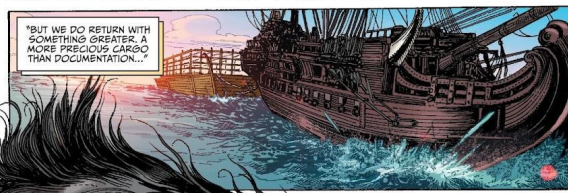












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KONG WILL REMAIN HERE IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE UNTIL FURTHER DIRECTION. I WILL ARRANGE TRANSPORT TO THE CITY.

YES, DOCTOR! I'LL HAVE MY BEST APES ON GUARD WE'LL FIND A NICE CAVE TO KEEP THE GIANT SECURE...



...BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE RESTRAINTS DOCTOR. IT COULD BREAK ANYTHING WE USE ON IT, EASILY.

WE'D BE DEAD MEAT IN AN INSTANT-- ALL OF US.



YOUR RESTRAINTS ARE ADEQUATE, SOLDIER, AND YOUR APES SHOULD BE SAFE.

HE WILL NOT FIGHT BACK THIS TIME. HE'S ACCEPTED HIS FATE--AN OLD, WEAKY SOUL AMONG HIS OWN KIND AT LAST.

"HE HAS BEEN PACIFIED."



--HRRR!-- HOLD STILL, DISGUSTING VERMIN!

DON'T YOU TOUCH ME! RELEASE YOUR GRIP THIS INSTANT!



PUT HER DOWN, LUCIAN! SHE IS TO COME WITH US AND REMAIN IN OUR CUSTODY.

NITA, TAKE MY HAND, PLEASE. IT'S OKAY--YOU CAN TRUST US.



TRUST? HOW DARE YOU EVEN THINK I'M CAPABLE OF TRUSTING THE LIKES OF YOU.

YOU STAND HERE AMONG THEM, NO BETTER.



ZIKA, WE CANNOT AFFORD ANOTHER TAYLOR. WE MUST DO THIS.



ORDER MUST BE MAINTAINED IF THERE'S ANY HOPE OF COMING OUT OF ALL THIS...

--NOLK--



LATER, IN APE CITY...

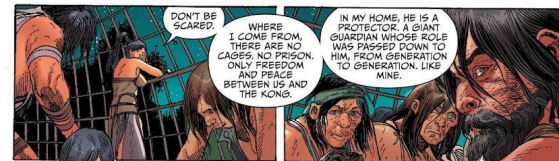
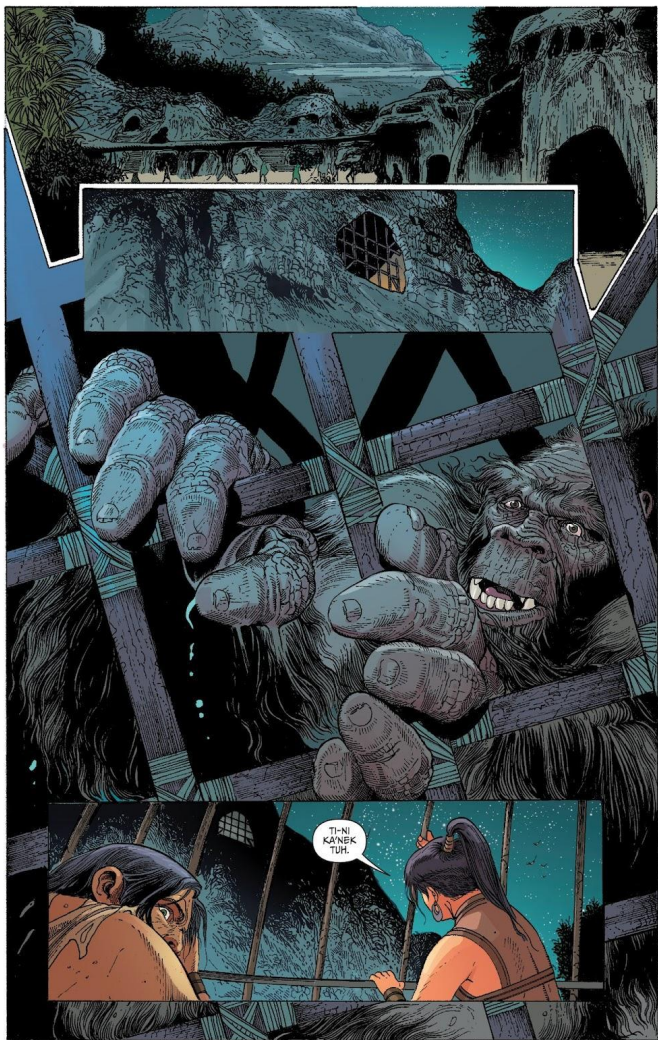














I FIND YOUR LACK OF RESULTS IS A DIRECT BREACH OF ORDER, AQUINUS.



I'VE BEEN TRYING, GENERAL! THEY JUST WON'T LISTEN TO ANY ORDERS. THEY'RE WORSE THAN THE HUMANS!



THEY KILLED TWO OF OUR BEST SOLDIERS ALREADY, GENERAL! HORUS AND SULU. THEY WERE MY FRIENDS.



THEY HAD FAMILIES, I HAVE A FAMILY!

WHAT SAY YOU, CORNELIUS? IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL OPINION—CAN THEY BE TRAINED?

IN THEORY, EVEN THE SIMPLEST FIGHT CAN BE TRAINED. WITH THE RIGHT TIME AND DEDICATION... THE RIGHT PATTERN OF PROCESS, THEN YES.



DO YOUR JOB BETTER, AQUINUS. I WON'T ASK YOU AGAIN.

THESE BEASTS ARE TO BE SUBSERVIENT BY NIGHTFALL TOMORROW, OR THEY'LL GET A THIRD MEAL FROM YOUR HIDE.



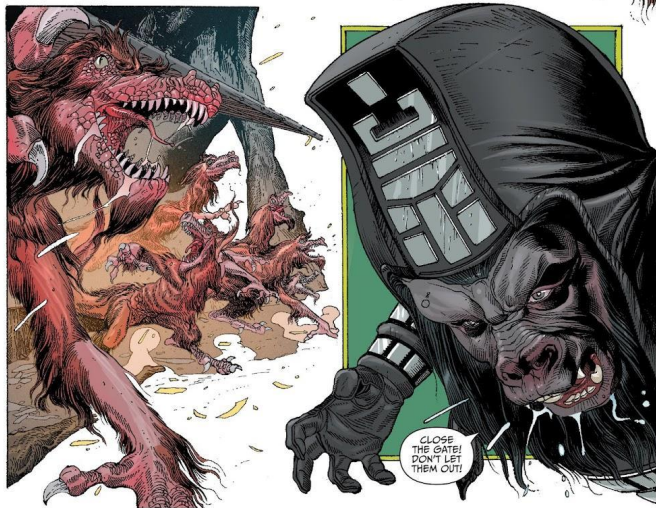
YOU DARE LAY YOUR Paws ON A GENERAL!



URSUS, HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? HE'S YOUR SOLDIER! PUT THE GUN—



KPOW!





FERRIER • MAGNO • GUIMARÃES

BOOM!
STUDIOS

FIVE
OF SIX

KONGTM ON THE PLANTTM OF THE ADTM



KONGTM ON THE PLANETTM OF THE APESTM

WRITTEN BY
RYAN FERRIER

ILLUSTRATED BY
CARLOS MAGNO

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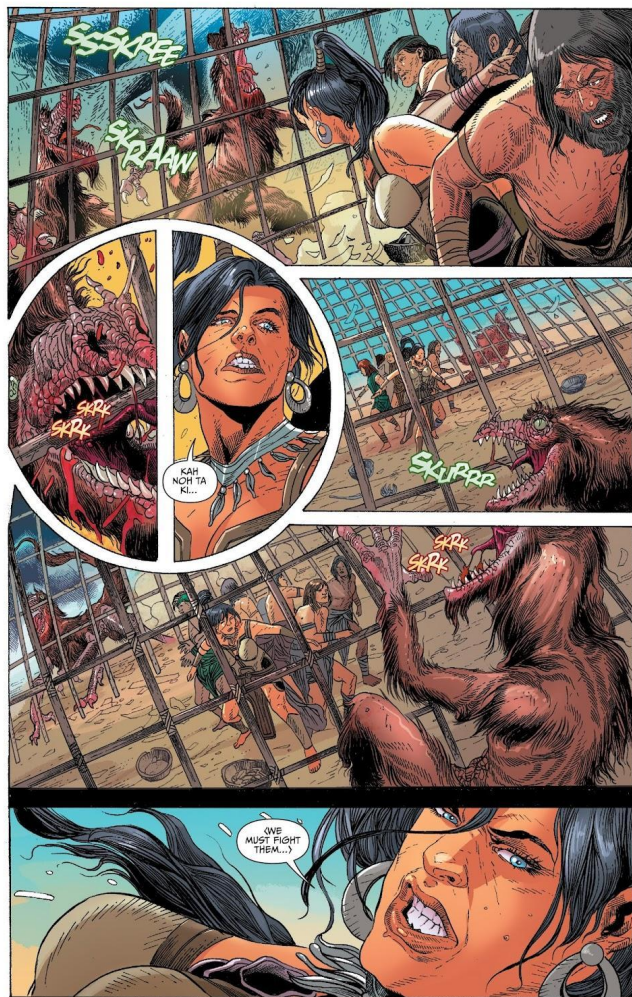
KONG OF SKULL ISLAND CREATED BY
JOE DEVITO

SPECIAL THANKS TO NICOLE SPIEGEL, STEVE TZIRLIN,
JOE DEVITO, DANNIE FESTA, JOHN LEONHARDT, AND
EVERYONE AT WORLD BUILDER ENTERTAINMENT.

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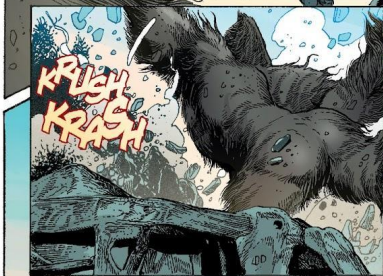




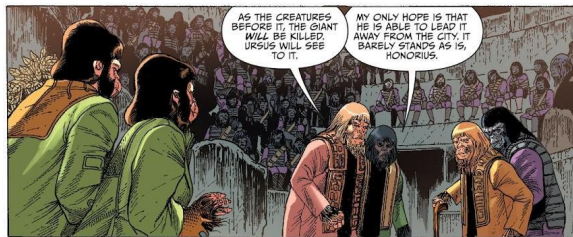












AS THE CREATURES
BEFORE IT, THE GIANT
WILL BE KILLED.
URSUS WILL SEE
TO IT.

MY ONLY HOPE IS THAT
HE IS ABLE TO LEAD IT
AWAY FROM THE CITY. IT
BARELY STANDS AS IS.
HONORIUS.



WE CAN'T LET
THEM KILL HIM,
CORNELIUS.

URSUS'S
FIREPOWER AGAINST
HIS STRENGTH AND
SURE I'M NOT TOO
WORRIED ABOUT
KONG.



NO! YOU CANNOT KILL HIM AS
THE LAST OF AN ENTIRE SPECIES.
IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO
ENSURE HIS SURVIVAL.

WE CAN
TRY TO LEAD
HIM AWAY
FROM THE
CITY. PLEASE,
GIVE US A
CHANCE.



WE ARE FAR PAST
SAVING THE GIANT'S
LIFE, DOCTOR. WE ARE
NOW FIGHTING FOR
OUR SURVIVAL.



WE ARE
LEAVING ZAIUS
AND YOU TWO
ARE COMING WITH
US. YOU OWE US
THIS MUCH.

IT IS PERHAPS
SAFER FOR ME
OUT THERE THAN
IT IS IN THIS
THEATRE...WITH
THEM.



KRAAH!

KKOW



KOOW

KEEP YOUR
WITS ABOUT
YOU! WE CAN
MATCH HIS
STRIDE!

ATTACK IN
WAVES--ONE
WITHDRAWS,
ANOTHER TAKES
ITS PLACE!



OUR
WEAPONS ARE
DOING NOTHING,
GENERAL!



"HE WILL NOT
RELENT. THE GIANT
WILL WEAKEN."







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STUDIOS

SIX
OF SIX

FERRIER • MAGNO • GUIMARÃES

KONGTM ON THE PLANETTM OF THE APESTM



KONG™ ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™

WRITTEN BY
RYAN FERRIER
ILLUSTRATED BY
CARLOS MAGNO

COLORS BY
ALEX GUIMARÃES

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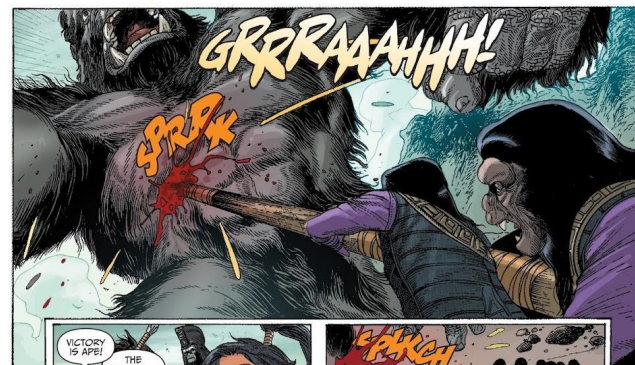
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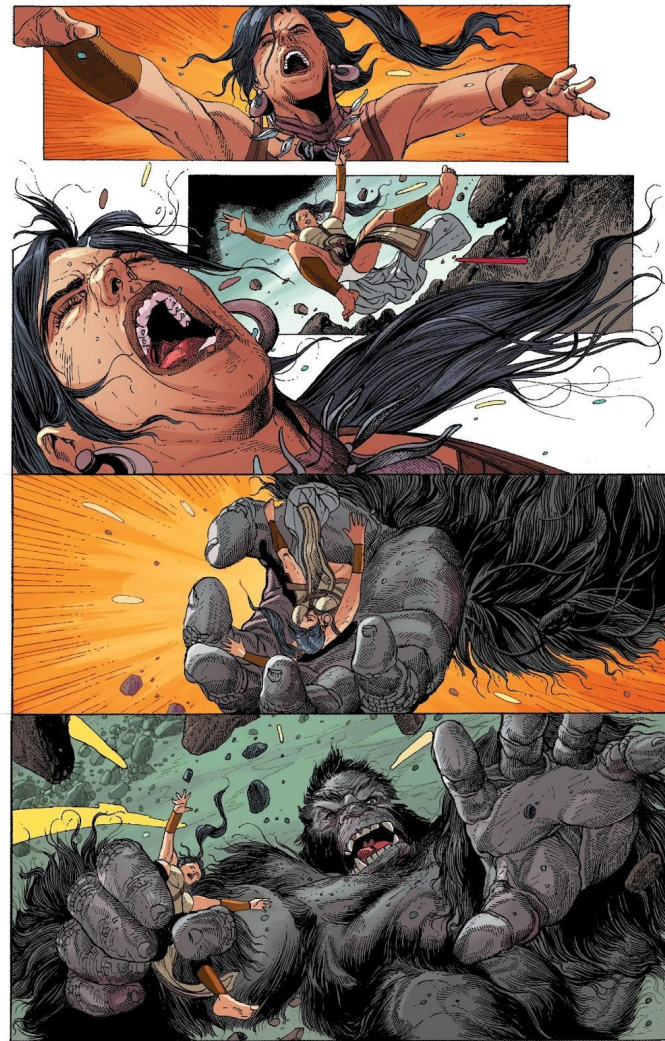
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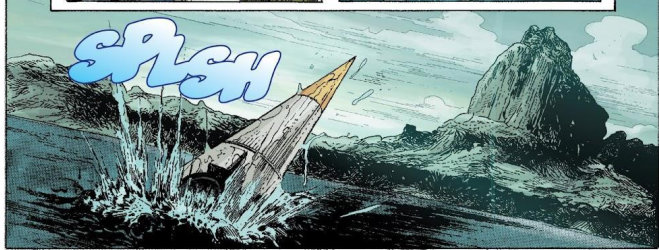
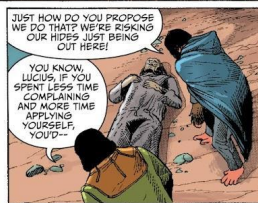
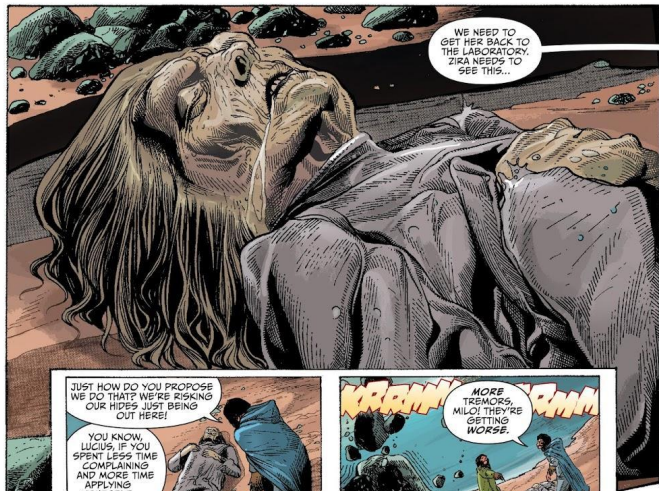


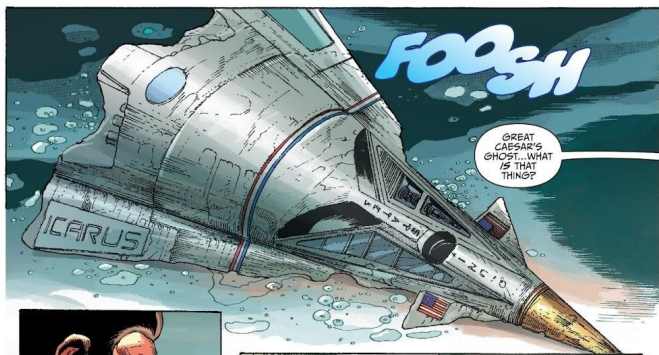










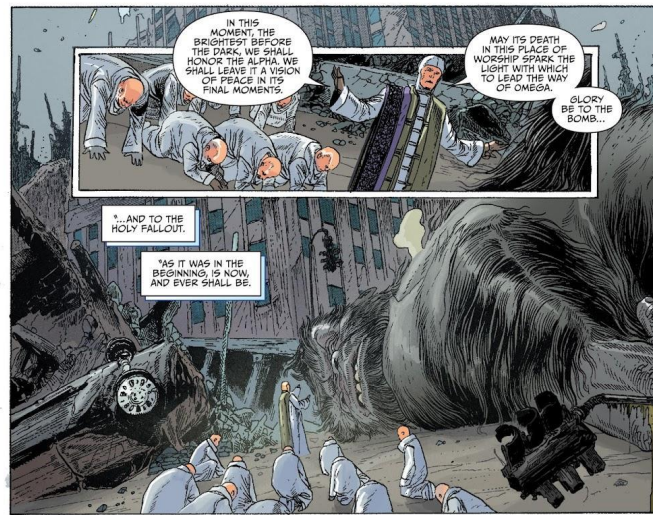












IDW
ONE
SHOT

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



900TH ADVENTURE

SEGA®



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WHAT'S UP, SONIC SQUAD!

Welcome to *Sonic the Hedgehog's 900th Adventure!*

This special issue is our way of celebrating Sonic's long history in comics! For 30 years, Sonic has regularly appeared in titles across the United States and the United Kingdom. The team at IDW counted up all Sonic's English-language comic adventures from that time—from our own ongoing *Sonic the Hedgehog* series, to one-shot tie-in issues for the latest games, to cartoon spin-offs, and much more—and arrived at the monumental conclusion that this would be the 900th release!

From the creative powers of some of the most beloved *Sonic* creators of all time, we now proudly present *Sonic the Hedgehog's 900th Adventure* and hope you join us for 900 more!

Special thanks to Mai Kiyetaki, Allan Khan, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
The Blue Blur.
Fastest thing alive.



MILES "TAILS" PROWER
Tech-Savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.



AMY ROSE
Hammer-Swinging Heroine.
Restoration ally.



KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA
Guardian of the Master Emerald.
Angel Island's protector.



METAL SONIC
Loyal Minion.
Mechanical menace.



DR. EGGMAN
Mad Genius.
Egg enthusiast.



BLAZE THE CAT
Fire-Powered Princess.
Friend from another dimension.



CREAM THE RABBIT
Compassionate Heroine.
The cutest thing alive.



THE BABYLON ROGUES
Legendary Thieves.
Mercenaries for hire.

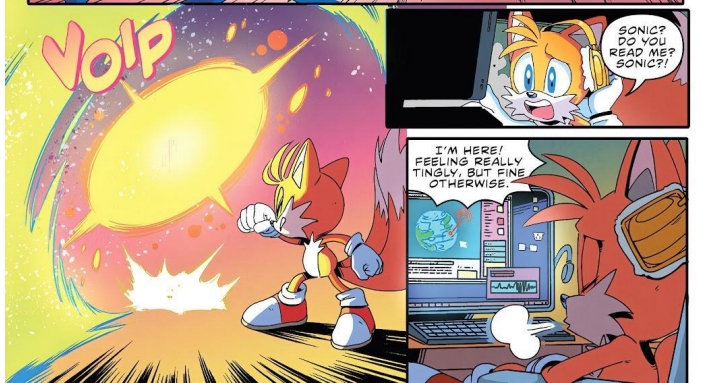


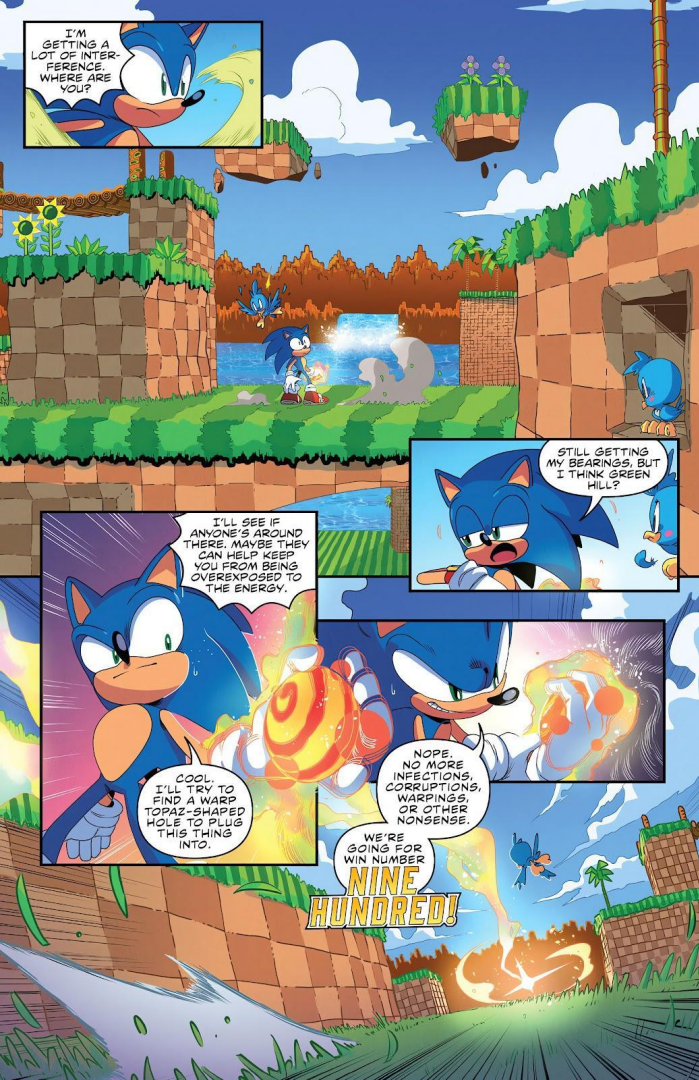
SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG
The Ultimate Life Form.
Sonic's grim rival.



ROUGE THE BAT
Treasure-Hunting Spy.
Restoration ally.













WOOOOOO!

SPLOOOSH

A MOMENT LATER...



EEK! YOU SMELL LIKE WET FUR AND LOW TIDE!

JUST FOR THAT, I'D BETTER BE GETTING TRIPLE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES. THE GOOD STUFF.



GOTTA RUN! IF I'M LUCKY, I CAN STILL CATCH THE TOPAZ-- EH?

WAIT!



YOU THINK I'M GONNA LET YOU LEAVE WITHOUT WISHING YOU GOOD LUCK?

GO SAVE THE WORLD, SONIC.

AHH... THANKS, AMES.



BOOM

...HOW AM I GONNA GET HOME?



SOON...

SONIC! I'M IN CONTACT WITH KNUCKLES. HE'S REALLY CLOSE NOW!

HE BETTER BE, BUDDY... DON'T WANT TO WORRY YOU BUT I'M STARTING TO FEEL KINDA WEIRD!

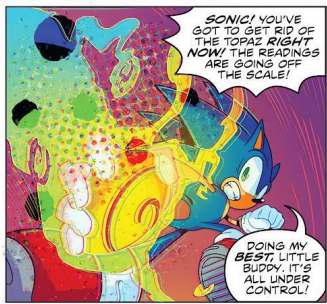
WAIT... I SEE HIM!



KNUCKLES! APPRECIATE YOU TAKING TIME OFF FROM ANGEL ISLAND!

WELL, TAILS SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT, AND HE HAS A HABIT OF BEING RIGHT ABOUT STUFF LIKE THIS!

SOMETIMES I WISH I WASN'T!



SONIC! YOU'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THE TOPAZ RIGHT NOW! THE READINGS ARE GOING OFF THE SCALE!

DOING MY BEST, LITTLE BUDDY. IT'S ALL UNDER CONTROL!



NEARLY GOT IT...

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT! JUST FIGHT! WHAAAAA?



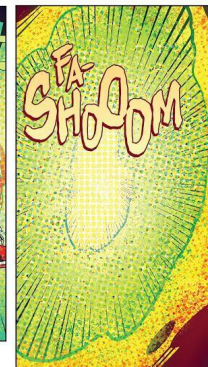
FA-SH BOOM

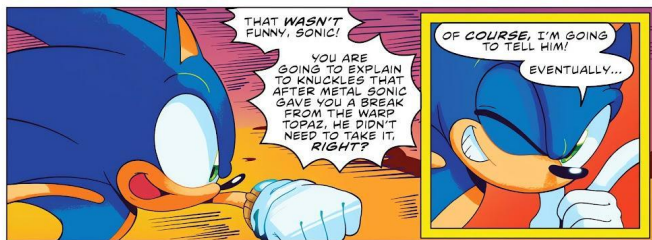


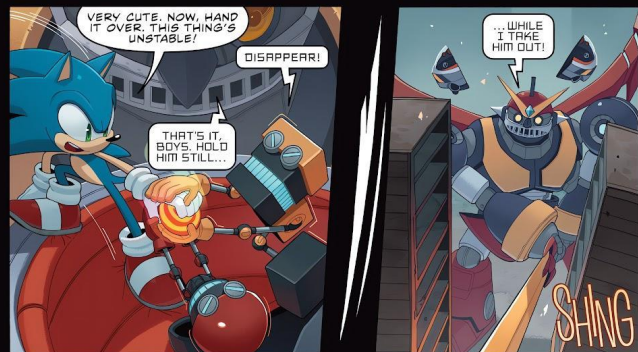
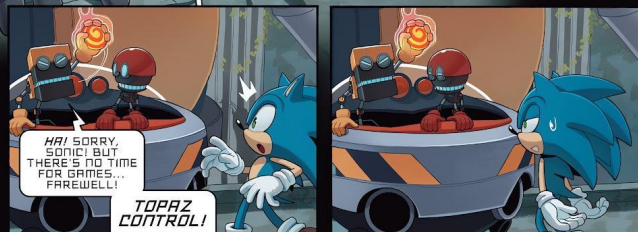
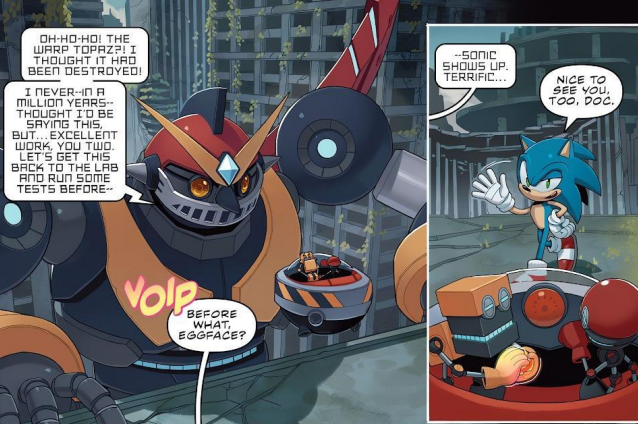
UHHHHH...

I HAVE A FEELING WE'RE IN BIG TROUBLE!

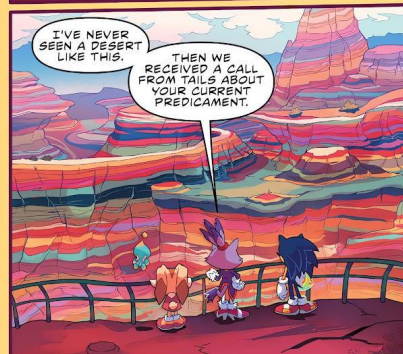


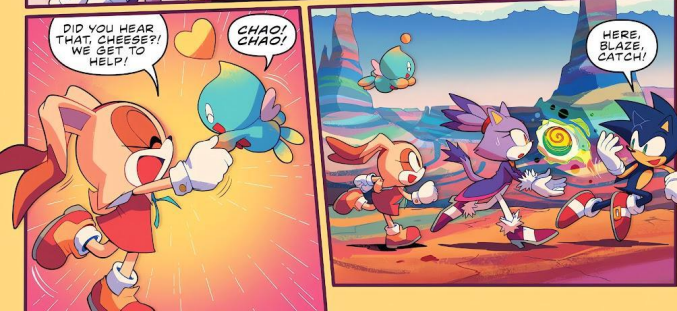


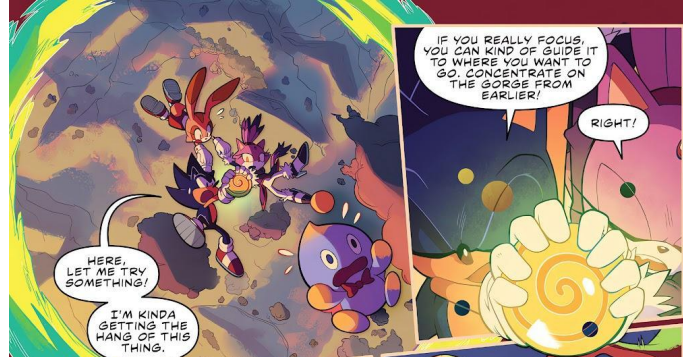


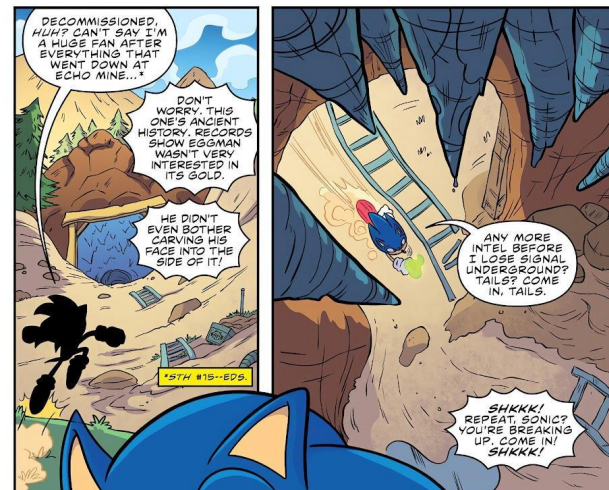
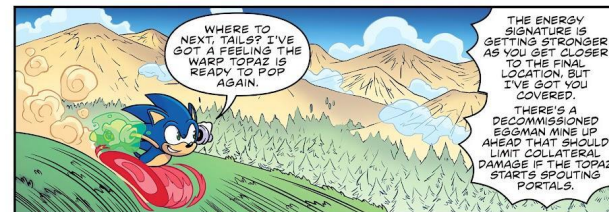


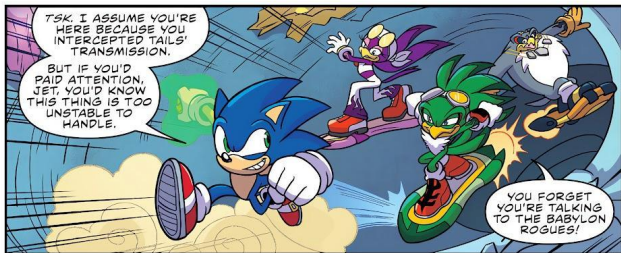




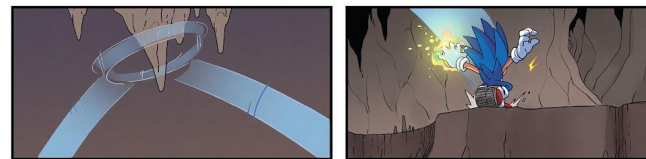
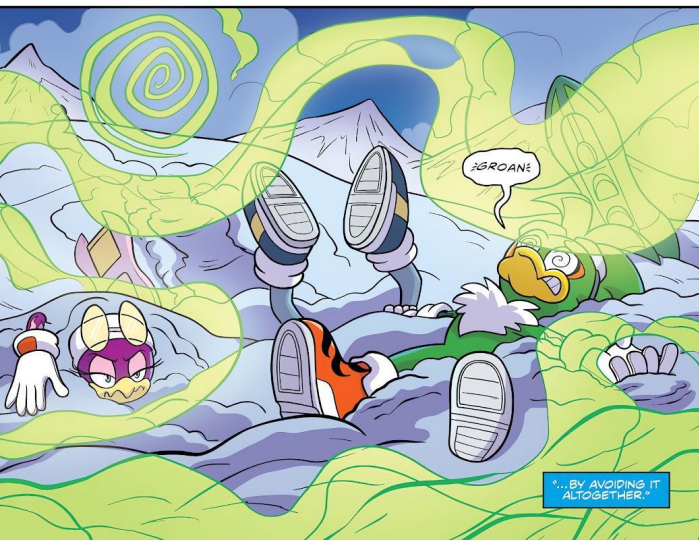
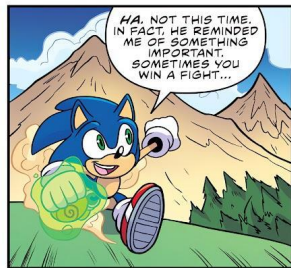










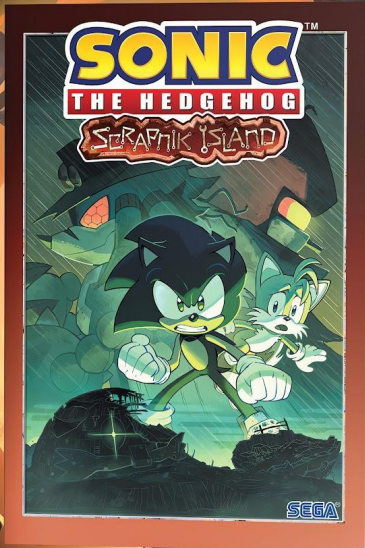






STRANDED ON THE ULTIMATE ISLAND OF MISFIT BADNIKS,
SONIC AND TAILS GO HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH A HANDFUL OF LONG-LOST
ROBOTIC ENEMIES, INCLUDING THE RETURN OF

MECHA SONIC!

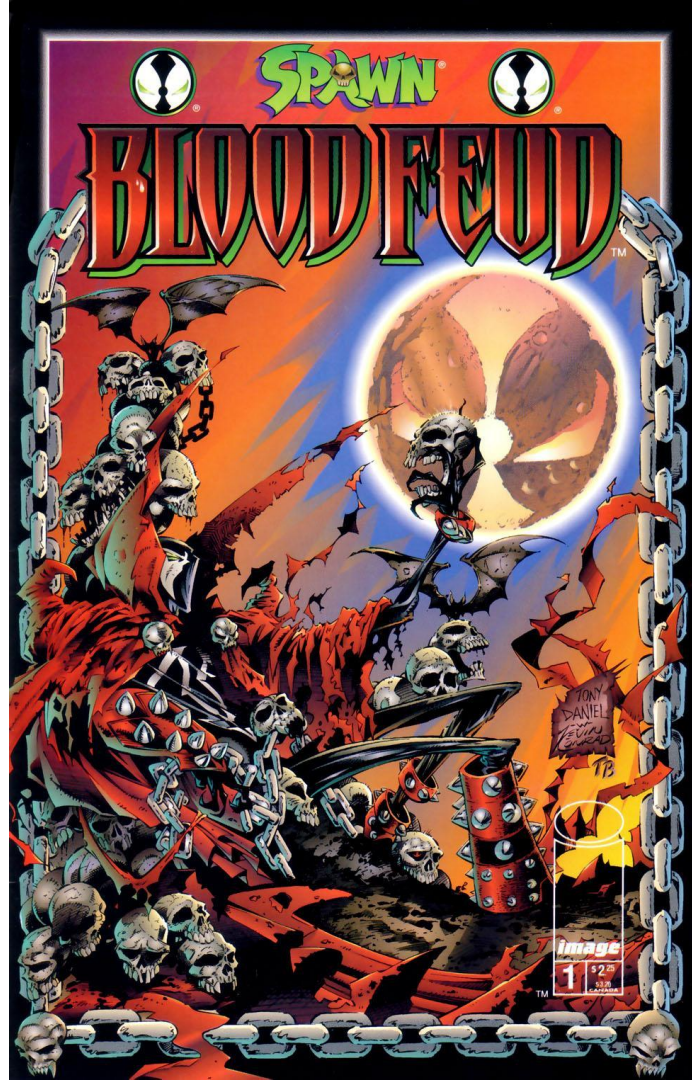


COLLECTS **ALL FOUR ISSUES** OF IDW'S SPOOKY *SCRAPNIK ISLAND* MINISERIES!

WRITTEN BY DANIEL BARNES
AND ILLUSTRATED BY JACK LAWRENCE,
WITH COLORS BY NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

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COMICS PRESENT:

SPAWN™
BLOOD FEUD™

PART ONE



Dedicated to:
**LEAH MOORE,
AMBER MOORE**
and all Young
Urban Monsters
Everywhere

story
ALAN MOORE

art
**TONY DANIEL
KEVIN CONRAD**

letters
TOM ORZECOWSKI

color
TODD BROECKER

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Director Of Creative Development: TERRY FITZGERALD.
Graphics Coordinator: JULIA SIMMONS.







The taste
of the prey's
fear is sharp and
intoxicating. As they
stampede before us,
they reek like
a river of
wine.

I AM AL
SIMMONS. I
AM DREAMING.
I THINK.

A mouth
turned inside
out, iron teeth
exposed to glitter in
the dual light of twin
suns. I am K'T LEETHA,
daughter of the
Seventh House of K.

I THINK
I'M DREAMING.
I THINK I'M
AL SIMMONS...

The frightened
cattle race below,
and with my sisters
howling all about me I
descend to take the
choicest cuts; leave
them to fight for
the remains.

A sleek
male breaks off
from the herd and
now my membrane
billows in the wind of
my excitement,
now my flails
snap out...

...and as
their cold lengths
wind about him,
I can sense
what he is
THINKING; what
he FEELS...

...and
it is
WONDER-
FUL.

BLOOD FEUD

PART
ONE





SO... WE GOT TWO SETS OF BODY PARTS DISTRIBUTED ROUND THE COURTYARD. THREE MORE SETS INSIDE. WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, TWITCH?

MEAT-LOAF, SIR?

NOT RIGHT NOW, MAYBE FOR LUNCH.

OKAY, LET'S SEE. ACCORDING TO REPORTS, THE WHOLE ATTACK TOOK UNDER THIRTY SECONDS: DOORS, PEOPLE, EVERYTHING JUST **DESTROYED**.

ARE WE LOOKING FOR A DELINQUENT MONSTER TRUCK, OR WHAT?



WE'VE BEEN GETTING WAY TOO MUCH OF THIS CRAP LATELY. THIS **TWILIGHT ZONE** CRAP.

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE

THE DEPARTMENT SEEMS TO AGREE, SIR. I HEAR THEY'RE BRINGING IN A FREE-LANCE **PARANORMAL** CRIMES SPECIALIST TO SHOVEL IT UP.



HUH, YEAH, I HEARD, SANGSTER? SANGSTER? SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

WHAT THEY THINK I NEED SOME CELEBRITY **GHOSTBUSTER'S** HELP DREDG'IN THROUGH THE MINCEMEAT?

DON'T FEEL THREATENED, SIR. HE COULD NEVER REPLACE THAT VULNERABLE, SENSITIVE QUALITY YOU BRING TO YOUR WORK.



THAT MEANS A LOT TO ME, TWITCH. HOW MANY YEARS IS IT I'VE SURFERED THE BLIGHT OF YOUR PROFESSIONAL COMPANY NOW?

I THINK TODAY'S OUR NINTH ANNIVERSARY, SIR.

HOW ABOUT ONE FOR THE ALBUM?



WHAT ARE YOU?

I KNOW YOU'RE ALIVE. I FEEL YOU CREEPING AGAINST MY FLESH. I KNOW HOW YOUR CHAINS MOVE, AND I SAW HOW YOU REAGED IN HEAVEN. #

I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU. DO YOU HAVE A NERVOUS SYSTEM INSIDE THIS FABRIC? DO YOU FEEL PAIN?

DO YOU DREAM?

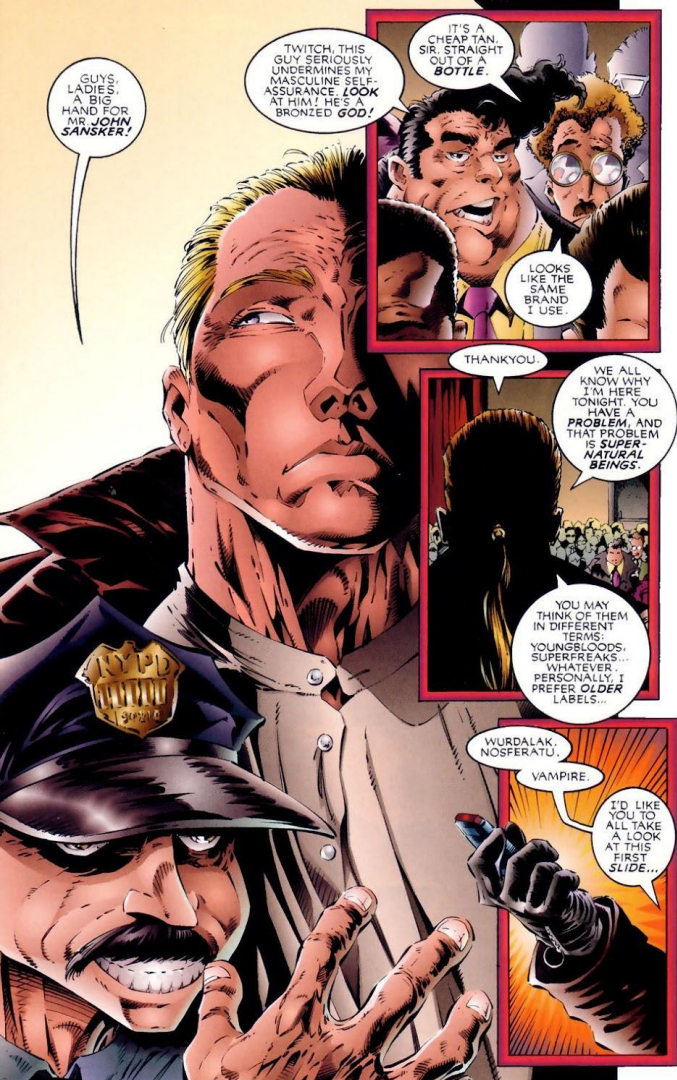
THE SKULLS... WELL, I GUESS THEY COULD BE WARNING MARKINGS LIKE ON DEATH'S-HEAD MOTHS, ONLY THREE-DIMENSIONAL.

BUT THESE CHAINS, WHAT ARE THEY? ARE THEY SOME CONTRA-REACTION TO PARADISE?

IS THAT WHAT'S CAUSING MY BLACKOUTS? SOME CONTRA-REACTION TO PARADISE?

ANGELA MINI-SERIES - TOP







OKAY, NOW THIS SHOT WAS TAKEN AT A GRAVEYARD THAT THE CREATURE SEEMS OBSESSED WITH.

I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THIS IS WHERE HIS MORTAL BODY WAS BURIED.

THAT'S RIGHT, I SAID **BURIED**. AS IN **DEAD**.

I WANT YOU TO TAKE A LONG LOOK AT THIS RARE SHOT OF THE THING WITHOUT ITS MASK. LOOK AT THE **DECAY**. LOOK AT THE **PUTREFACTION**.

THE EXPERIENCE OF DEATH OFTEN DRIVES THESE CREATURES INSANE.

FREQUENTLY THEY HAVE DELUSIONS; LURID HEROIC FANTASIES TO BLOT OUT THE AWFUL TRUTH OF WHAT THEY ARE...

...BUT I KNOW WHAT THEY ARE...

EXTRANORMAL HAZARD



BEWARE



...AND I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO WITH THEM.

"THESE BEINGS DON'T LIKE THE LIGHT... IN ANY SENSE, THAT INCLUDES THE LIGHT OF CLOSE SCRUTINY. TO THAT END, WE'LL NEED GROUND AND AIR SURVEILLANCE TEAMS."



"THEY ALSO AVOID THE LIGHT OF PUBLICITY, SO I SUGGEST A FULL PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN INCLUDING TV SPOTS, LEAFLETS, POSTERS, YOU NAME IT."



"OBVIOUSLY, WE WANT TO AVOID PANIC, SO OUR RELEASES HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY WORDED. THE PHRASE 'EXTRANORMAL HAZARD' IS BETTER THAN 'VAMPIRE' FOR EXAMPLE."



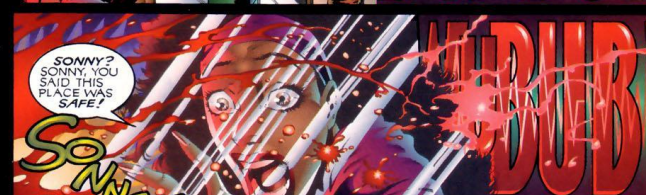
"SOONER OR LATER, OUR CAMPAIGN WILL PROVOKE THE EFFECT WE DESIRE, BY DRIVING THINGS OUT INTO THE OPEN, WHERE WE CAN GET AT THEM."



"SOONER OR LATER, WE'LL ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE CREATURE ITSELF."









When the hunting is done I slide home, in the light of a binary star with two shadows before me.

The feeding was good: my chains writhed with fresh oils, and my train turns a deeper, more satisfied red.

Through a town of dead trees I am blown, where my sisters sleep through the fierce double-moon draped from their beautiful skull-nests, the trail shells camouflaged with micas.

Beyond are charnel pits, where the unwanted remains of our cattle are dropped.

From this valley of dead legs men I am whirled up like the leaf of some sinister autumn.



The sky fills my coils and my knuckle lings vial at the veins of the wind.

I rise up, with the slaughter-hymn swelling my folds...

I rise up, ripping and exultant, a hell-flag, into the oo-gate of the suns.

Whose gaze brings LIFE...

Whose gaze brings REVELATION

WHA...WA...?

CAREFUL, HE'S STARTIN' TO COME 'ROUND...

WHA...? WH-WHERE AM I?

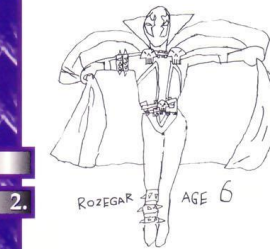


Image Fan ART

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Dave Howell Olathe, KS | 6. Serena Rome, ITALY |
| 2. Arsia & Ash Rozegak Burke, VA | 7. Sebastian Meyer Palmdale, CA |
| 3. Mike Lamb Winterville, NC | 8. Frank Alexis Brooklyn, NY |
| 4. Joe Merralde Brooklyn, NY | 9. Nick Paradis Winnepeg, MAN |
| 5. Derrick Fish Minneola, FL | 10. Jan Nierhoff GERMANY |



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

6.



7.

8.



9.

10.



Dear Mr. McFarlane,

The first comic I ever bought from Image Comics was Spawn #2 and I have been reading it ever since, and I have noticed a big change in your comic then and in your comic now.

Whether it be that in the early issues of Spawn the stories had to do with Heaven and Hell, angels and demons, and churches and cemeteries, or whether you were able to go into greater artistic detail, more interesting stories, because of more time then, or some other reason... I don't know. But now you work on a schedule and have to rush and hurry to get everything out on time without enjoying what you do and not being able to take your time to do the best work you can. You put out all these stories that have to do with alleyways, homeless, police, Terry and Wanda's lives, and creating all these dumb new pointless characters while Spawn here is trying to act like Spiderman: an "always trying to save the day" superhero. Where are the demons, devils and times when he deals with Heaven and Hell? This is almost 40% of what makes Spawn so cool. I miss the way I thought of Spawn in issue #2 and other early issues; he was a badass demon who hung around in cemeteries (Spawn needs to hang around in cemeteries more), not the wus he has slowly crept into. Spawn is supposed to be a Hellspawn.

I saw Spawn's new costume, well sort of. Now this makes him look a lot tougher even though I only saw the shadow; please tell me that it will look like that Medieval Spawn's suit cause that suit kicks! But seriously, what's up with the books that make him look so corny? Spawn shouldn't have boots, he looks better without them.

Another problem is this thing where you and Greg Capullo both pencil. It looks queerer. O.K.? Cut it out. I think that you or him need to pencil separately, or like you have been saying, "If you can't because of having to finish it every month, then let Greg, Mike Manley, or Michael Golden draw it while you write. But all I'm saying is the comic was pretty cool when you wrote, pencilled, and inked. If none of this works out you could always let someone like Alan Moore write a 3-issue story or you could tell him the point of the story or what you want to happen in the story and he could write it, then you could draw what he wrote.

Chase Samsel

Age 13

Dear Chase,

When I first decided to create Spawn I never meant for him to be a mystical type of character, although the first four issues might have given a different impression as they dealt mostly with the origin of how he got his powers. Yes it's true that he comes from Hell and yes, it's true, that is where his powers originate from, but those first four issues

THE
SPAWN
GROUND

P.O. Box 25468 ANAHEIM CA. 92825

where only a set up to put him on Earth and let him do normal things so that his quest and his actions would be far more realistic in the context of superheroes. I always meant for him to be more of a Batman-type character not a Dr. Strange-guy. I never liked Dr. Strange comic books because they weren't very realistic or believable and I always found that it would be far more interesting for a character who didn't want to use his powers and couldn't do anything that was actually based on things that could happen in the real world, to get out of his predicament. For instance, Batman's backed up against a wall, he has a bazooka pointed at him, and it's a cliffhanger, because theoretically, how will Batman get out of there, and if he doesn't get out of there, how will he survive a bazooka blast? In the same situation, Dr. Strange could teleport to turn invisible, or maybe he could melt the bazooka, or something like that. I was just never really convinced by any of the mystical stuff, and never really enjoyed the mystical stuff that was in some of the other comic books where a character wasn't a superhero. I'm not saying that Spawn is ever going to be like Spiderman, as you suggest, but I'm trying to come up with a superhero with an edge. What that edge is is basically something that doesn't make him a goody-two-shoes superhero. As for the artwork, when I'm writing the stories I'm going in the direction that I intend to go into. You have to understand that Spawn has a finite amount of power; if I just make him use his powers and have him do all the cool things that you want to see him do every issue, his energy would go down to zero real fast. I'd have to either cancel the book or find a way to have him regenerate his power. Given that when I was a reader I always hated that comic book superheroes could regenerate their power. It was a trick, because people couldn't die, and then be brought back. In my mind, at least as of today, that once Spawn gets down to 0.0.0 on the power meter, that basically that's the end of his story. So that the only way I can slow down that process is to make him do things that are far more normal, given that he's going to try and act like a man even though he isn't.

I hope you hang around and see how it all sorts itself out. In the meantime, thanks for the letter.

Dear Todd,

I am from South Africa. I bet you don't get much mail from down here. We don't share the products that America gets like your Spawn Toys. I have some statements for you: 1) Please make a brilliant game for the Genesis. 2) Please send your Todd Toys here. I know a lot of shops that would buy them. 3) What's going to happen with that guy from issue #18? Does Spawn still have his "blank" card? You're a good person, Todd, and I respect you.

I know that I am a mere nothing to you, but I still am one of your many long-term fans. I haven't been collecting comics for any more than three years, but I like to believe that I know quality when I see it. I see no quality in your books any longer.

I am 11 and I do artwork, also. I and many others here respect Spawn and wish that we could be a part of what happens in America.

Sincerely,
Dandy Throb
Johannesburg, South Africa
To take your points one at a time, Danny, there is a Nintendo game, not a Genesis game, that will be coming out this fall in 1995. It will be a 16-bit game for the Super Nintendo system, and later on in 1996 you'll be seeing the CD-ROM in 32-bit versions for the Sony PlayStation and possibly Genesis Saturn, if I'm not mistaken. Those will be, by far, a higher quality in terms of technology than the 16-bit.

As for your second point, we just signed a deal internationally to get toys into South Africa and hopefully, they'll be tricking your way.
On the blank card, if you've been reading you'll see that in issue #32 the blank card came up again, and that actually it's kind of a mystical card that was able to tell Spawn where to go to find his friend, Bobby. Thanks for the kind words, and we'll be seeing you around.

Dear Todd,

I love Spawn! I have just one request... PLEASE, stop stealing X-Force artists! First Greg Capullo-joni! Next, possibly the greatest penciler to ever grace the pages of X-Force, Tony Daniell! X-Force is my favorite comic book (coming in a close second is, of course, Spawn). Please take this letter seriously. I love Tony Daniell's work and I wish him the best, just leave the X-Force artists alone!

Mack Williams

Georgia

Really, Mack, I don't have any personal target or comic book that I use to try and steal or hire artists from. It just happened to be coincidence that two of the guys that contacted me and were looking for work happened to be doing the X-Force books. Again, one had come from Captain America and the other one had come from Batman. Their names were Greg Capullo and Tony Daniell. I still would have hired them based upon their talent. I don't really hire people based on which books they're doing, but more upon the skill level in which they turn out their comic book pages. Both Greg and Tony have been doing a great job, as you'll see in this issue, which is Tony's debut here in the Spawn legends. Hopefully, you'll be along for the ride for the next three issues with him.

Dear Sir,

I know that I am a mere nothing to you, but I still am one of your many long-term fans. I haven't been collecting comics for any more than three years, but I like to believe that I know quality when I see it. I see no quality in your books any longer.

Now, as only a 13-year-old, I will not address you in the manner in which many others do (most older, some younger, and some whose ages are left unsaid.) That reason being that you are, in fact, older than I, deserves a certain amount of respect.

What you are doing with Spawn, however, is reprehensible. I went to my local comic book store today and I bought the following titles: *Knightmare #1*, *Wetweek #1*, *Wizard #46*, and two copies of *Spawn #30*. I opened a copy of *Spawn* and, as I usually do, glanced to the page on my left. I was utterly disgusted. Why should you be so bold to ask? Because your name doesn't even come first under the art category anymore! I was so outraged that I immediately dropped the copy of that very book, and opened my latest copy of *Wizard*. I turned to page 68, and there, staring me in the face is the column entitled - "Klash Course" by none other than Greg Capullo. How do you do it? How can you be so bold as to resort to letting your only artist manage a drawing column, too?

Then, you can also make a video game, movie, cartoon, and toy deals, all while watching the best selling comic book of the century get flushed down the toilet. That's bold.

Mr. McFarlane, with all due respect, this must stop. I think it would be best if you discontinued all other deals with everything, and everybody else, and continues on giving *Spawn* the look he deserves. I think that if you were to write and draw *Spawn*, even if it meant that the book was going to come out at a later date, you would get more support than criticism.

In closing, I commend you on your fine toy line, and writing.

A plan of 13-year-old boy from Milwaukee.
Drew Letter.

The changing of the names that you saw in which Greg's name appeared ahead of mine was done as recognition for Greg's hard work and not because Greg was doing any more or any less work than he normally was. Since Greg and I started teaming up in December of 1994, both of us have been pretty diligent in what it is that we contribute to the book. I just felt that out of respect to Greg Capullo, for his time and effort that he's put in, I would give him top billing on the comic book. Seeing as how I got sole credit for the writing, I thought I was being a bit of a hog by taking two major credits and maybe I could take a back seat and give Greg his due. I don't think that you should read any more into this than me saying thanks to Greg, and if you take a look at the books I think that you'll see that the quality of the book hasn't changed because neither one of us has changed the way we contribute to the book. As for doing all of the other deals outside of the comic books, one of my goals that I set out to do when I left Marvel Comics was to see if I could create a character that would eventually be a household name. The way to do this is to let him out of your house. And since the community of comic books is a small one, I have to look for ways to show off my character and let people across the world see him. Unfortunately, they don't carry comic books in every nook and cranny of every corner of the world, but they do have movies and television in each one of those countries and if you can expose yourself in those fields, then there's more of a likelihood that people will know what your character is about. I can guarantee you that the Batman and Superman characters had a lot more suc-

cess worldwide because they were, starting in 1940, on television and have been on numerous times before the big, blockbuster movies came out on the big screen in the late '70's and '80's, but each one of those things helped carry a respectable name across the world. Finally, after 30 or 40 years of putting an effort forward, it made it easier for people to accept the new Batman movies. They now have a huge audience and following based upon Batman not just staying in a little corner, but exposed to us in different products, whether that be toys or dolls or pajamas. I don't intend to do all of those things with *Spawn*, but at the same time I need to take *Spawn* outside of this comic book community that has been so good to me. Hope you don't mind my sharing my character with others. Thanks.

Dear Todd McFarlane,

We are a couple of concerned female readers. We love *Spawn* and the action figures but we feel that you are missing something. We all agree that you need a *Wanda* figure. She has been a huge influence on *Spawn*. She has made him who he is today. If you decide to make a *Wanda* figure (hopefully you will) we were wondering if you could make her look as sleek and as sexy as in the comics. Many of the friends we have that read *Spawn* agree completely. Thanks for everything.

Fan 19
P.S. Keep up the great work.

At present we actually have other characters besides *Wanda* that are pretty prominent in the book such as Jason Wynn, Terry Fitzgerald, and Tony Twist (as well as *Wanda*) that we don't have toys of right now. One of the problems that you run into with making toys of so-called "ordinary people" is that what sells toys to a certain number of people outside of the collector base is that they have a nice play feature with them. For me, and it's still early in the game right now, it's hard for me to figure a way for me to make a *Wanda* figure and give her a play action that would actually be interesting for somebody like yourself or a male consumer. She doesn't have any superpowers or do anything out of the ordinary, so unless I gave her a changeable coat or a flingable purse... I don't know what to give her! If you have any suggestions, please write in to me; I'll take 'em. The guys like Terry and Jason, unless you give them a little gun or something, I don't know. The superheroes can be given wings or a bazooka and battleship, shooting missiles and a bunch of other stuff that makes it far more prominent. If I have 5 toys in the line up and one of them is really kind of ordinary, then most people will gravitate towards the ones that are playful. Hence the definition of a toy is something to play with instead of to look at. If you've got any suggestions, I'll take them.

Dear Mr. McFarlane,

I just wanted to drop you a line to request that you package all of your *Spawn* toys with a pacifier. After reading numerous letters in "Spawning Ground" of people whining and crying about how difficult it is to acquire all of the toys to complete their collection, I realized how utterly ridiculous they sound. So, I figure that a pacifier packed with each toy may appease some of the cry-babies.

True, some of the toys are hard to get, but for me, that's all part of the fun of collecting

them. With a little luck, some imagination, and a few connections, I have acquired 3 Clowns, 3 Tremors, 2 regular Overkills, and 2 special Overkills, as well as Medieval *Spawn*, Violator, and *Spawn*, and I got them all at \$5.99 a piece! My quest to acquire the rest of your toy line will continue, and believe me, I will get them all.

(I unlike the rest of your fans) have had a blast tracking them down. I think that it's unfair that your fans are taking their anger out on you. Instead, they should redirect their frustrations toward comic book stores that buy up all the hard to get figures, and crank the prices up 400%.

Collectors, tell the store owners how unfair you think it is, and maybe they'll get the message, or maybe they will not. If not, use your imagination, make friends with the stock boy at Toys R Us, fill out rain checks, and trade with other collectors, get a job at WalMart, etc., etc., the list goes on and on. When you use your imagination, the sky is the limit. So please leave Mr. McFarlane alone, it truly isn't his fault, and besides, the scarcity of the figures is what ultimately makes them so valuable to the collector.

If there were equal numbers of Clowns, Tremors, and Overkills, no one would be whining about how hard they are to get, but on the other hand, they wouldn't be as valuable. So quit whining, and get your little toy collecting butts out there, and hunt these awesome toys down. Don't give up hope, just keep trying. They'll turn up eventually.

Fan 19
Sincerely,
Larry Milhan, Jr.
age 25
Cardiff, NJ

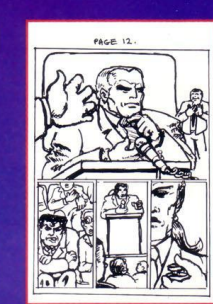
Larry,
Well, it sound as if you've been pretty fortunate at tracking down all of the toys you were looking for. Unfortunately, if I take you up on your suggestion, and it sounds like you probably have a dozen toys, that means you'd have a dozen pacifiers, and unless each one of them had some kind of different play action or something like that(!), it would be kind of redundant to give you 12 of the same kind of pacifiers, unless I color coded them or something! Unfortunately, some people live in areas where they don't have accessibility to the big stores and they're really at the mercy of their retailers. Now again, you're right; once the toy goes out of my hands and I sell it (at the same price to everybody), it doesn't matter how big of a consumer they are, the people should actually be taking to their store owners that are jacking up the prices on these toys. If a person has to have one of the toys, then ultimately there's nothing I can do. It falls into the same category as a movie: If you wait long enough you can see it on video for \$ 9.99, or if you wait even longer you can see it on network T.V. for free. So it just depends on how fast you have to have something or how long you are willing to wait for it. Since I'm not the one who sets the secondary market, I only put out the product and it is to be that people bring a little bit clever and a little bit shifty like yourself, is actually the way to go to acquire some of the stuff. Look for ads, mailing, conventions... there are alot of different ways to get things.

Thanks for the helpful hints, Larry.
Take care.

Alan Moore

ALAN MOORE

Behind the Scenes



- In the 2 page layout for pages 4&5 Alan depicts an eerie dream sequence where *Spawn*'s costume hunts it's home environment.
- On page 10 Alan shows *Spawn*'s internal torment, observed from a roof top above by a trio of bewildered bums.
- The sketch of page 12 shows us the monster hunter for the first time as he prepares his deadly presentation.



Over these two pages, we wanted to introduce you the reader to these incredible thumbnails. Alan Moore, the writer of this mini-series, not only delivered a full script to Tony Daniel, the penciller, but as usual included these amazingly detailed thumbs.

Alan has mentioned to us that for him, drawing these little sketches help him "visualize" his story and will help give the penciller an idea of what the page should look like when complete. Tony told me early on the the thumbs were of great benefit to him. On a few of the pages he actually kept pretty close to Alan's



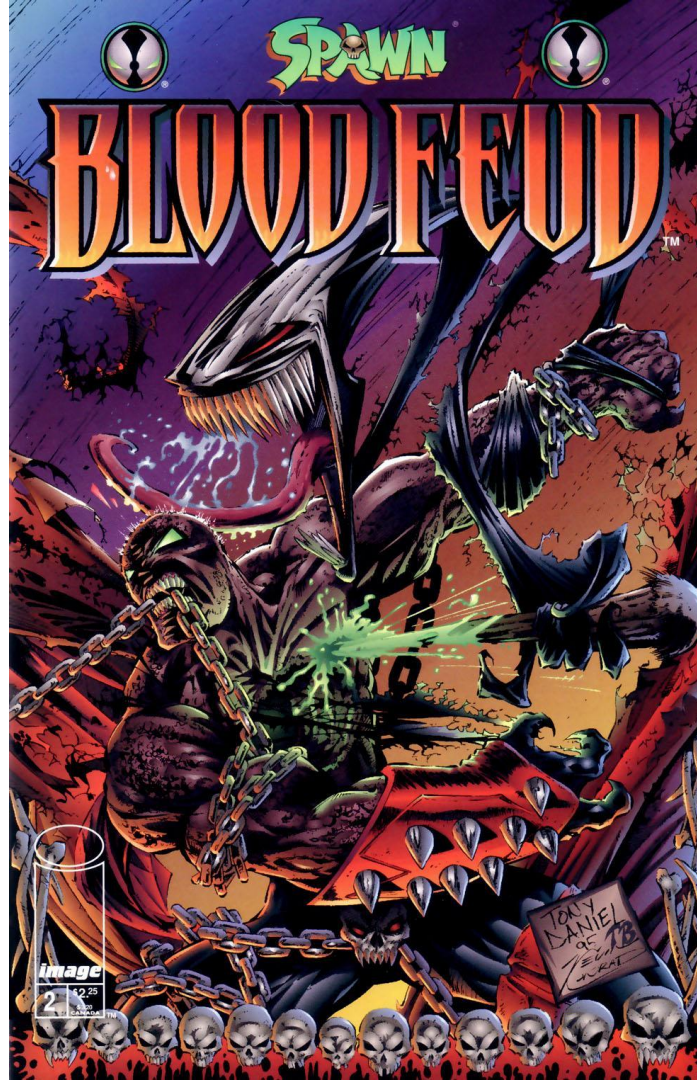
designs, on others he totally redrew the page. As a writer, Alan knows that the penciller has ultimate control on what hits the page, but was flattered that Tony did use his thumbs, on the odd occasion, as a guide for the final page layout. Go back through the book, keeping these two pages in mind, and see where Tony kept Alan's designs and where he changed them.

Terry Fitzgerald



- Page 16's drawing by Alan has *Spawn* reading and reacting to the "EXTRA-NORMAL HAZARD" posters fluttering around him in a dramatic split page layout.
- Page 20 gives us the "subjective" view of the terrifying blood letting in the elevator scene.
- In page 26 we are left with a full page scene where Alan conceives a very incriminating image. *Spawn*, awash in the victim's blood hunched over a ravaged corps, is overcome by a terrible understanding.





image

2

\$2.25

JOEY DANIEL
OF
EQUUS
MAY

image™ & TODD McFARLANE
COMICS PRESENT:

SPAWN

BLOOD FEUD

PART TWO

story

ALAN MOORE

art

**TONY DANIEL
KEVIN CONRAD**

letters

TOM ORZECOWSKI

color

TODD BROEKER

additional thanks to
**ELECTRIC PICKLE
PHILLIP TIMPER**

FOR IMAGE COMICS

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Publisher: TONY LOBITO	Traffic: RONNA COULTER
Art Director: DOUG GRIFFITH	Asst. to Exec. Director: KELLY VAN LANDINGHAM
Production Manager: TERESA CESPEDES	Graphic Design: KENNY FELIX

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Graphics Coordinator: **JULIA SIMMONS.**

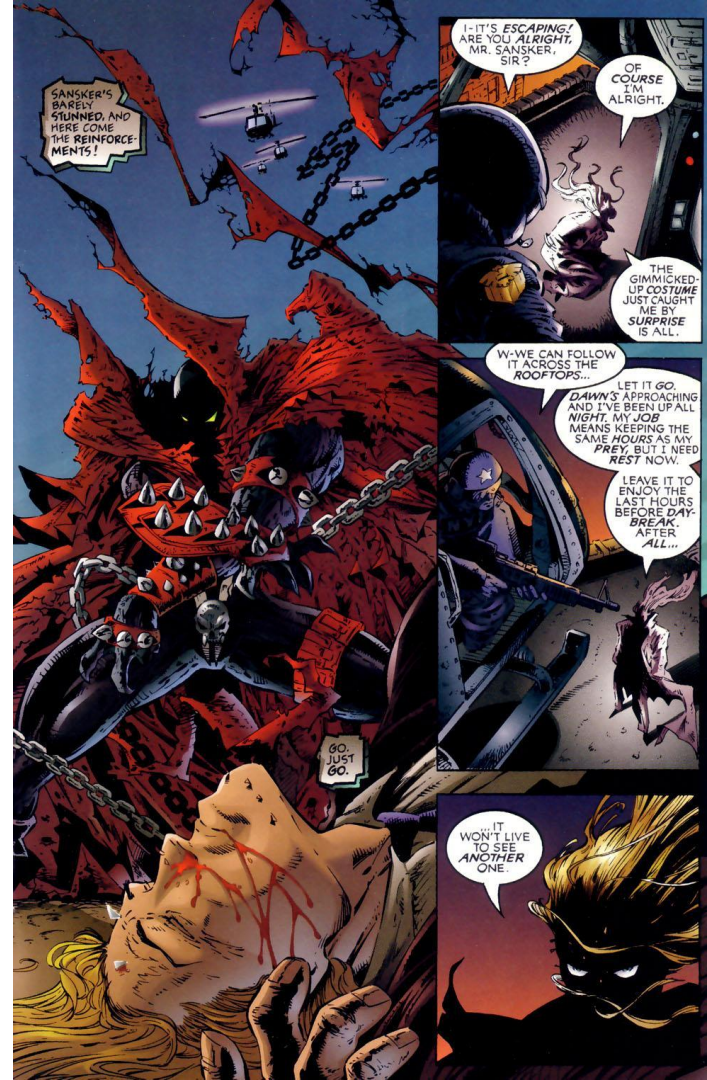
















GET IN THERE! GET IN THERE! YOU SQUIRMING HORROR, AND GET OUT OF MY LIFE FOR GOOD!

AL? WHAT ARE YA GONNA DO?
C'MON, MAN, THOSE ARE GOOD CLOTHES! PLENTY O' GUYS WOULD DIE FOR THREADS LIKE THAT!

"PLENTY HAVE."



Y'KNOW, ALL OF A SUDDEN I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD. IT'S C-COLD OUT HERE. I NEED SOME CLOTHES...

I GOT A SPARE SET O' RAGS IN MY BUNDLE HERE. WHY'N'CHA TRY 'EM ON?

GOOD RIDDANCE TAKING MY COSTUME OFF JUST ABOUT EXHAUSTED ME. I HAVE TO GET BACK TO MY ALLEY AND SLEEP ON THINGS.

I GUESS EVEN IF PRESS, POLICE, PUBLIC AND OLD PALS HAVE TURNED TRAITOR, I STILL COMMAND THE LOYALTY OF WINOS AND DEADBEATS. LUCKY ME.

AWK, THE HELL WITH IT. COME ON...

HMPH. WELL, I'VE SEEN WORSE, EVEN IF I CAN'T RECALL EXACTLY WHERE!

YUP, YOU DEEP SIKED IT, BUDDY. IT'S GONE.

DID THAT TRUNK GO UNDER YET?

"LET'S GO HOME."

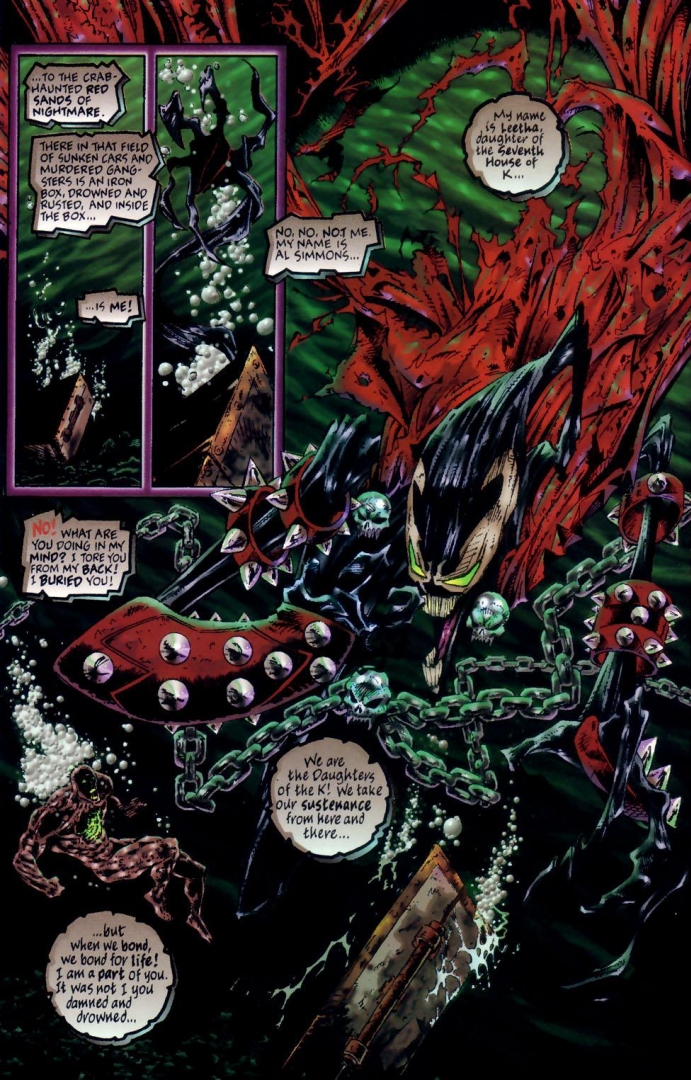
HEY, LOOK OUT! O' BLANK EYES IS BACK!

DRESSED DIFFERENT, TOO...

OKAY, OKAY! EVERYBODY JUST ACT NATURAL AND NOBODY SAY ANYTHIN!

WARNING







THE SPAWNING GROUND

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the shadows. Would this include Spawn?

3. In the last issue or so of Spawn it was said that Spawn's body was composed of necroplasm, but in early issues it was said to be psychoplasm. So which one is it? Those are all the questions for now, but there will be more in the future.

A loyal fan,
D.M. Age 22

Yes, indeed, starting in November there will be a **Spawn/WildC.A.T.S.** miniseries. It will be self-contained and won't specifically carry into either the **Spawn** or **WildC.A.T.S.** titles. No plans so far of **Spawn** being part of **Knights of the Zodiac**. It was originally stated that **Spawn** was made of psychoplasm. I'm now using the term necroplasm, which for all intents and purposes is the same thing. I just think that "necroplasm" has a cooler ring to it for a creature resurrected from the dead, but either one of these is interchangeable in my work.

As for the negative comments that we get, I've always felt that it's better that people are talking negative about you than not talking about you at all. There are plenty of books out there that people don't even care enough to give an opinion.

Hey Todd,

I think that your writing has certainly improved & I like your art as much as before Tony arrived. People at my neighborhood store comment that I am not the typical **Spawn** reader. I am 31, a graduate student and instructor and I read **Spawn**, **Weird Melvin**, and **Flaming Carrot** (and I would read **Doom Patrol** if it was not cancelled). Tell me if this statement is not true: The comic industry reflects business culture in general, capitalism specifically and as such does not have an ethical imperative. Creators deserve remuneration and companies deserve profits if the market supports their particular product. I like what **Image** has done to the industry, that of cre-

ator ownership and such. I hope it continues. But I have seen numerous companies go belly up. That **Image** has survived Eclipse as well as First. When the owner wrote to illustrate the effects of **Marvelution**, (in issue #32) it was with offense to **Marvel's** actions. No doubt he has experienced the pain involved and I do not wish to demean him or diminish his pain. The change of the market that caused **Marvel's** decision did not come from putrid products (I am no fan of **Marvel's**). The implication followed the not-investment mentally helped along by **Wizard** and the rise of **Image**. After putting out tons of garbage for years, **Marvel** was faced with greatly diminished returns. **Marvel** made a prudent if damaging decision, but one based upon the principles of the market. Didn't **Image** cancel the second generation books due to the market and diminishing returns?

I like **Spawn** because of an energy and freshness I do not find elsewhere. However, would you publish it if it COST you money to release it? Sure **Marvel** is stupid, stone minded, untalented and ruthless, but their guiding principles are the same as most. I do not enjoy defending unprincipled or ham fisted actions. However much hand-wringing occurs, it seems to me that if people buy poop, that is what they like. To go further, 10 million flies like sh*t, but it doesn't make it good. The principles of the market say make money. By buying **Spawn** and the few titles that I still read I make my statement. You know so yourself. **Spawn** is better than most anything **Marvel** has done and you've made a nice living. There are people damaged by **Marvel**, who shouldn't be, but why didn't people try selling alternative titles rather than push X-Men as so many did. **Marvel** made many retailers a lot of money, perhaps even you. The crying now is a result of the buyers of comics as much as **Marvel**.

As such we have no one to blame but ourselves.

I like comics but never forgot that they were a business.

Alex Ness

Dear Alex,

Although I'm not quite clear what the overall point that you are trying to make is, let me see if I can address some of the specific points. That **Marvel** is trying to survive in an ever-changing industry should surprise no one. As a growing business on the public stockmarket, it is their goal as well as every other company's that is publicly traded, to continue steady growth and increase profit margins. That's not necessarily an evil thing; it's just a reality that those in upper management at **Marvel** must deal with every day. From my view, what they're doing is perfectly normal and as a businessman myself I'm aware of how they must act to keep their fellow shareholders happy. That some of the retailers are crying foul shows a lack of understanding, in my mind, of what being in business is all about. Diversification will be key to the survival of any comic retailer. Not putting the proverbial eggs all in one basket is going to be how a small retailer can weather any future storms. Hopefully, a few valuable lessons have been learned by all.

As for some of your strong statements about the overall product that **Marvel** puts out, I think that you're painting them with far too broad a brush. **Marvel**, just like any other comic book company, has its fair share of jewels as well as duds. It's up to each perspective customer to search out those jewels at each company.

Dear Todd,

I just read "The Spawning Ground" of issue #31 and I'm very disappointed. It's this violence controversy thing.

I've been reading **Spawn** since issue #8. The thing that hooked me was the originality, the art, the attitude, and the reality it reflects. I love many different titles by **Image** and other companies, but **Spawn** stands apart from the rest. Although each comic is unique in its own way, it's usually because the costumes, settings, and characters are original. **Spawn** is unique because of its bold attempt to mirror life in a hard-boiled manner.

Any other teenager attending a public school can tell you stories just as violent as those told in **Spawn**. Anyone watching the evening news can share

more twisted facts. Comics are built on the principle of good versus evil. Of course there are going to be conflicts. Some are just told more realistically than others.

I don't know about anyone else, but I for one thought that the way **Magneto** ripped the adamantium from **Wolverine's** pores in **X-Men** #25 was a little more descriptive and excruciating than anything in the pages of **Spawn**. And they're approved by the Comics Code Authority!

Why doesn't anyone rave and rant about that? Because the **X-Men** are the clean cut, All-American version of superheroes!! Just because **Spawn** isn't everyone's idea of a hero, doesn't mean that he isn't one. The reports on the six o'clock news are bloodier than the pages of **Spawn**. If you don't like the comic, don't read it! **Image** is making a statement; something that a lot of so-called heroes today don't do. They're worried about being politically correct.

Keep up the great work, Todd... and don't ever lose your determination to say what must be said.

Gina Goad

Toledo, Ohio

Actually, Gina, the majority of comments are usually about the subject matter that I'm presenting, not so much the fighting or the violence.

The number of letters I receive concerning the violence is actually quite small compared to the number of letters regarding the subject that I'm trying to portray. I find that everybody seems to have a slightly different reason for buying this book, and when I get off their personal track some people take it a little more to heart than others. I often choose letters that discuss how a certain topic is presented in my books. For both variety and my own personal information.

Dear Mr. McFarlane,

I recently came across an article in which you said you wanted to know what keeps people buying on a regular basis. And I thought to myself, "Now that's a great question!". You see, I am a wife and a mother of four. I don't get out much and needless to say, we don't have a lot of extra money. My husband is somewhat of a collector, and probably one of your biggest fans. He has pretty much everything that relates to your **Spawn** character. Including your model, which wasn't easily put together, but turned out great. He definitely buys your comics and toys on a regular basis. In fact my

bedroom now looks like a **Spawn** gallery. Where I used to go out to dinner or to a movie, I now spend my weekends cruising aisle 7-D of our local Toys R Us in search of the latest variations of **Spawn** figures. I personally read your comics on occasion, and I always enjoy your letters section. I just wanted to say to all those people who complain about not being able to find your toys: You're just not looking hard enough! Though I will admit I spend more time looking than I would like. I recently asked my 3 year old son who is that, while he was looking at a picture of **Superman**. He replied, "A **Super hero guy**." Though he could name **Spawn** and quite a few others from your characters. So I guess that you are well on your way to making **Spawn** a household name. Congratulations!

In closing I would like to say I'm STILL not sure what keeps my husband buying your merchandise, but as soon as you find out, please, please let me know so that I can get him the proper help that he so desperately needs!

Laura Bernhardt
Hanover Park, IL
Age 30

Dear Laura,

Spawn, like alcohol, can be both enjoyed or overindulged. Excessive consumption of alcoholic beverages has been the curse of many a good people; though controlled in moderate intake can be quite passive. It appears your husband is drunk on **Spawn**, which isn't actually a bad thing from my point of view, because if I had a couple million more addicted fans like I could relax a lot. I hope that still doesn't solve your problem, does it. So let's see if we can't play a mind game with him. See if you can't get him to pretend for two months that there are actually 15 new **Spawn** toys a month instead of the six for the entire season, at an average cost of \$7.00 each. He could make believe that he was out buying the additional 24 toys (30-6-24), so he was to save the \$7.00 times 24 you'd have an additional \$168.00 tucked away, which would enable him to take you out for a romantic dinner every month for the rest of the year. And if he's really good at it he'll actually be able to convince himself that it's good for his collection to keep taking you out! Just trying to help. Call me 'Dear Todd'.



SPAWN



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COMICS PRESENT:

SPAWN BLOOD FEUD

PART THREE

story

ALAN MOORE

art

**TONY DANIEL
KEVIN CONRAD**

letters

TOM ORZECOWSKI

color

TODD BROEKER

additional thanks to
PHILLIP TIMPER



FOR IMAGE COMICS

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Director Of Creative Development: TERRY FITZGERALD.
Graphics Coordinator: JULIA SIMMONS.





PAIN. LIQUID
BLUE. THAT
TRICKLES UP
MY BACK.
ACROSS MY
SCALP...

I DON'T
WANT
TO DIE.

NOT
AGAIN.

NOT
NOW...

SYNCHRONIC!

AW, FER
CHRISAKES!
OUTTA THE
WAY, BOYS!
HE'S BUSTIN'
LOOSE!

NOT
HERE.



CRACKLING
ROPE'S OF FLAME
WHERE ONCE MY
COSTUME'S
CHAINS WOULD
SWING ABOUT ME

CHEST-
EMBLEM A
JUTTING SPIKE
I TRAIL A
CAFE OF
SMOKE...

HE'S
HEADED FOR
THE DOCKS?
AIN'T THEY
SPOSED T'BE
AFRAID
O' RUNNIN'
WATER?



WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
ME? I'M WANTED
FOR MASS
MURDER. THEY
SAY I'M A
VAMPIRE.

SOME
WHERE
BETWEEN
THE
DEVIL...

MY OLD C.I.A.
CONTACTS
HAVE TURNED
ON ME. EVEN
THE BUNK
DON'T WANT
ME.

I GUESS
I'M RIGHT
WHERE I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN...



...AND THE
DEEP BLUE
SEA.



THE COLD DARK,
CLOSING IN.
I CAN'T HOLD
ON TO WHAT I
AM ANY MORE.

MY NAME
IS AL
SIMMONS...

My name
is Leetha,
daughter of
the Seventh
House
of K.

OH NO.

Oh
yes.

This
is what it
is, to drown.
To be cast
off. To be
rejected.

In a
box. You tore
my splendid
crimson pleats
and put me
in a box.

You
tossed me to
the dark as if
ours was some
brief affair, but
I am called
K-7
Leetha!

I am
raptor-queen
of murder-scarts
and strangle-rags.
I am she-that
entangles and I
am your bonded
bride.

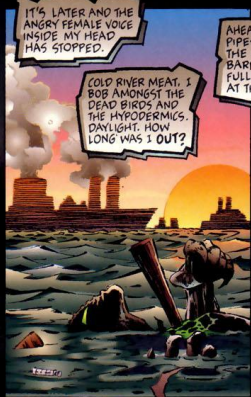
I am
a part of
you. It is like
love, save
that it's
real...

...and
lasts
forever.



IT'S LATER AND THE
ANGRY FEMALE VOICE
INSIDE MY HEAD
HAS STOPPED.

COLD RIVER MEAT, I
BOB AMONGST THE
DEAD BIRDS AND
THE HYPODERMICS.
DAYLIGHT. HOW
LONG WAS I OUT?



AHEAD, TWIN WASTE-
PIPES POKE OUT FROM
THE BANK, A DOUBLE-
BARRELLED SHOTGUN
FULL OF CRAP AIMED
AT THE SEA.



I NEED
A PLACE
TO HIDE.



SOMEWHERE SO
WRETCHED
THAT NOBODY
WOULD HAVE
THE STOMACH
TO COME LOOKING
FOR ME.

A PLACE
WHERE NOT
EVEN THE
LOWEST
OF VERMIN
WOULD GO.



















THE CAR IS AN ANVIL
ABOUT MY THROAT.
DRAGGING ME UNDER,
AND IN MY MIND THERE
IS A WOMAN'S VOICE
HISSING, "YOU SEEN NOW?
YOU SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE?"

I'M
OVER MY
HEAD.

SINKING
FAST.

GOING
DOWN...

TO BE CONCLUDED...



THE SPAWN GROUND

P.O. Box 25468 ANAHEIM CA. 92825

I hope some of you had the chance to attend the San Diego Comic Con which ran from July 27-30. I couldn't be there, but the rest of the bunch got away for a fun time in San Diego, including Terry Fitzgerald, Julia Simmons, Sheila Egger, and Al and Melanie Simmons. Al appeared as Spawn, signing autographs and discussing our hero's latest dilemmas, along with Tony Daniel and Kevin Conrad, who were very well received by the fans. McFarlane Toys' Michigan office was on hand to display prototypes of the new Spawn, Youngblood, and Wetworks figures, which will be released this fall and early spring of '96.

Thanks to Bob and Charlene Lomonaco, and Eric and Holly Light. Just a reminder that I will at DefCon 2 in Tulsa, OK on Saturday, September 16th. See you there! We all want to wish Kevin Conrad "Happy Birthday" on August 24th. Remember Kevin, you're as young as you THINK you are.

Dear Todd,

First off, let me say that Spawn Blood Feud #1 kicked major butt. A masterpiece in art and writing. Tony Daniel and Kevin Conrad are a phenomenal team.

Alright, now that I'm done kissing butt, I'm ready to complain. First, this new inbred art thing with you and Greg just doesn't work. (Didn't anyone tell you about inbreeding?) The art in the recent Spawn issues looks like it should be in crayons. Todd, you and Greg

are very talented people individually, BUT when you mix your styles it SUCKS!!! Also, in the back of Spawn Blood Feud, a 13 year old boy writes to you and says, "...I see no quality in your book any longer," and you acted like you didn't care. But way back in Wizard #11 you said, "If a 15 year old kid who reads Spider Man doesn't like my stuff, that concerns me." Well Todd, where the Hell is all of that concern you speak of?

Todd, I bet you're wondering why I'm so pissed off. It's simple: I just re-read Spawn Blood Feud and said to myself, "Wow self, that was the best Spawn comic we've read in a while."

So, Todd, you are sitting down reading this letter and wondering what the Hell the answer is. Well, the answer is simple. Give Greg (Super Tough Guy) an Angela regular series and keep doing Spawn with you, solo at the helm.

Well, Todd, my letter is over, so it's time for you to throw it in the garbage but I hope that this letter pisses you off so bad that you sit down at your art table and do the best art you've ever done, just to get revenge on me.

Sincerely,

Josh Shomo, Age 15
I am concerned about the audiences' reactions to the book, but you have to understand that I have several hundred thousand fans out there and unfortunately, I can't accommodate each one of them individually. I get far more letters praising the look of the book, and more importantly the steadiness of the book now that I have Greg on

board. For me to do everything solo again would result in you receiving only 8 issues of Spawn a year. I feel that it's more important to get the character out there and make him more popular than myself.

Hope you stick around. Take care.

Dear Todd McFarlane,

I just read Blood Feud Part 1. It was excellent. One thing wrong, though, I didn't like the way Spawn looked in his costume or his costume's dreams. He looked so...wrinkly. Why did he look so funny? Also, when Spawn blacked out was it Spawn dreaming or his costume dreaming? One more thing, I reckon that if you change the skull in the "A" of the Spawn logo to one of the skulls on Spawn's new costume, it would look so cool!

Keep doing your great work on the Spawn comic.

Your greatest fan,
Guy de Bomford
Tasmania, Australia

Guy,

There where a couple of reasons why I recently changed the look of the costume. One, because the costume is transmutating into something far more than just a mere uniform or costume, and two, I thought that Spawn looked a little too pristine in his costume given the fact that he hung around decay and garbage in the alley all day long. I'm trying to make him look more like a product of his environment instead of a hero lost in the back allies.

Dear Todd,

I am a major collector of Spawn. Ever since I saw Spawn #1 on the shelf at the comic store I have collected Spawn. I have two of every single issue.

I admire both Greg's and your art. People always complain about Greg's artwork, but I think that they're just jealous. The sad part about that is that the fans are the ones who want a shorter gap of time between issues. They got their wish and now they need more! These people are sick. They keep on sending rude letters and making Greg feel bad. If I were you I wouldn't even answer letters like that, but you are nice enough to do so. If they don't like the comic then why do they collect?

I'm a 13 year old wanna be professional comic book penciller. As time goes by I hope to see more titles by both of you and I hope that the Spawn comic will last for a long time.

Thank you,
Daniel Hirsch, age 13
Bonita, CA

As I stated earlier, the vast majority of letters praise the artwork of Greg Capullo. I just have a bad habit of pulling out some of the negative letters to answer, much to the chagrin of Greg Capullo himself. It really did come down to me trying to deliver a monthly comic book, but being unable to do so on my own. I felt that the book on a consistent basis was far superior than half the amount of issues with a particular artist you like. Given the fact that no comic book artist has had an entire career with the same character, there are eventually going to be changes anyway.

Dear Todd,

I've never written to a comic book before but I can't put up with the nonsense that's been going on

in your letters column. First of all, I've been reading and drawing comics almost all of my life and have seen the medium evolve from something that was considered a quaint diversion to something that's a multi-million dollar industry. I think that the quality of the stories and artwork has risen greatly although I suspect that profiteering may eventually kill the industry.

My main beef is with some of your readers. Where do these 13 year olds get off criticizing your writing and especially your artwork with Greg Capullo? Do they even have a clue as to what it takes to draw the way you and Greg do? Are they saying Greg can't ink or draw and that's why the art has supposedly suffered? Have they read the Angela mini-series? Obviously, these attacks are ridiculous. These kids have no point of reference for this type of criticism. Anybody that knows anything about comic art knows that you and Greg do a type of art that's tremendously detailed. This type of art is not easy to do. These whining kids are basically spoiled by the high standards that you and other artists have set. How they can complain about Spawn artwork is beyond my comprehension.

Another issue I want to raise is about your idea of making Spawn a "household name". This may be the dream of many comic book creators but I hope you don't overextend yourself in trying to please so many people. In my opinion, Spawn should be more of an adult oriented book due to it's subject matter alone. You've come up with an extremely interesting vision for this character and with that you can really plumb the depths of the human condition. Keep striving for excellence.

Sincerely,
Kevin Reid, Age 27

Unfortunately, I'd have to disagree with your assessment of the age group that criticizes the most. I find that it's usually the older readers who have been following my career for almost 10 years now that simply don't want to let go of what it was that they once had. People state that we were doing monthly comic books when we were at Marvel before we formed Image. But I can guarantee that each one of us did it at a cost. There were very long hours, and we were not taking care of ourselves physically. All for fear of not getting the book done and the risk of getting fired. One of the things we controlled by going out on our own was determining our own destiny, including our work hours. Being a husband, and the father of two beautiful girls, is the primary reason that I don't put in the kind of hours that I once did. Although I'm sure a lot of readers would like to see me do a complete book from head to toe, with all of the other things going on in my life right now, it wouldn't be fair to my family to get the job done.

So there seems to be a perception out there, at least in my instance, that if I'm not doing a comic, then I'm in Hollywood or making toys. Although I do both of those, it's more the fact that I promised my wife I would keep reasonable hours when we started Image Comics.

As for the context of future projects outside of comics, I can guarantee you right now that we won't soften the subject matter or sophistication of what Spawn's all about. But to be able to make these promises, I do have to have a hand in it because I'm the only one who cares enough about Spawn to keep him on track if he gets derailed.



SPAWN



BLOOD FEUD



TONY DANIEL
1/10
1/10

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COMICS PRESENT:

SPAWN BLOOD FEUD™

PART FOUR

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art

TONY DANIEL

KEVIN CONRAD

letters

TOM ORZECOWSKI

color

TODD BROEKER

additional thanks to

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ANDY TROY

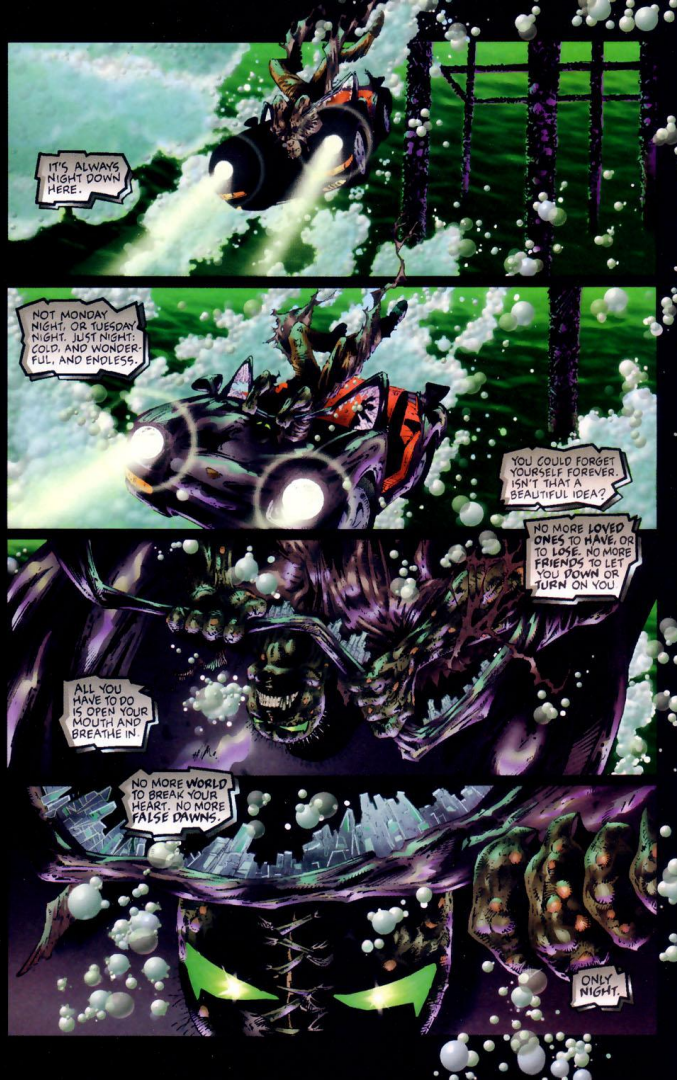
PAT MARTIN

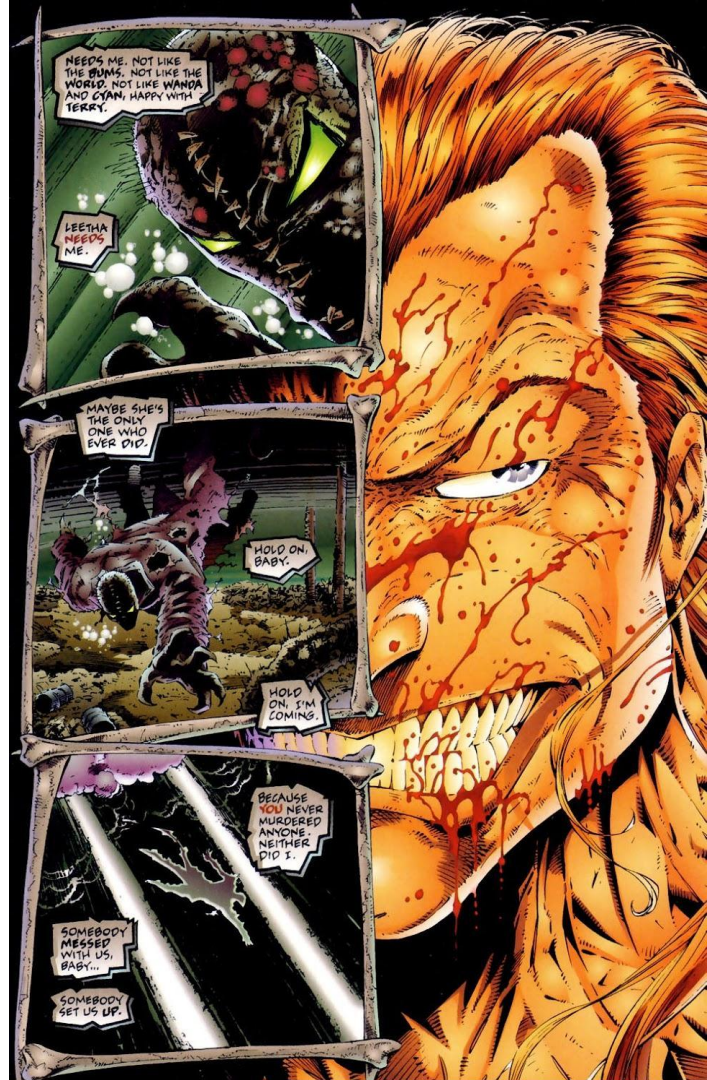
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Director Of Creative Development: **TERRY FITZGERALD.**
Graphics Coordinator: **JULIA SIMMONS.**







HELLO CONTROL, THIS IS
SAM BURKE. WE'RE
JUST APPROACHING THE
DOCKS. IS THERE ANY
WORD ON DETECTIVE
WILLIAMS?

HE'S IN
THE O.R.
NOW, *SAM*.
IT DOESN'T
LOOK
GOOD.

JESUS. WELL, KEEP ME
POSTED, OKAY? AND MAKE
SURE OUR *BACK-UP* GETS
HERE. I CAN SEE *SANSKER*
NOW AND I'M GOING *IN*.
OVER AND OUT.

ANDY,
PULL
OVER
JUST
AHEAD.

MR.
SANSKER?
THIS IS
DETECTIVE
BURKE.

I WANT YOU TO
TAKE YOUR HANDS OUT
OF YOUR POCKETS. NICE
AND SLOWLY, AND THEN
I WANT YOU TO
TURN *AROUND*.



GOING
DOWN.

THIS PLACE IS
WHAT IS LEFT
BEHIND US,
WHEN THE WORLD
MOVES ON.

DISCARDED
PEOPLE.

DOWN WHERE
THE THREE-
WHEELED BABY
CARRIAGES
AND OLD
REFRIGERATORS
COME TO DIE.
HERE IN THE
KINGDOM OF
UNWANTED
THINGS.

A REALM OF THE
DISCARDED,
GIVEN UP TO RUST
AND ONLY SEEN BY
BLIND FISH OR
DROWNED KITTENS.

THE DISCARDED
MARRIAGE BEDS
THAT ONCE CREAKED
LOVE DUETS. DIS-
CARDED SHOES.
DISCARDED WALLET.
HYPODERMICS,
GUMS AND TOYS...

HARBOR MUD DRAGS
LIKE A BAD DREAM AT
MY HEELS. THE WATER
IS LIKE INK. ALMOST
OPAQUE SO THAT I
CAN'T SEE WHERE I'M
GOING, BUT IT
DOESN'T MATTER.

IN MY NERVES
SHE'S SINGING LIKE
A RIVER-BED CHOIR.
IN MY MIND SHE'S
SHINING LIKE A
BALEFUL FLARE

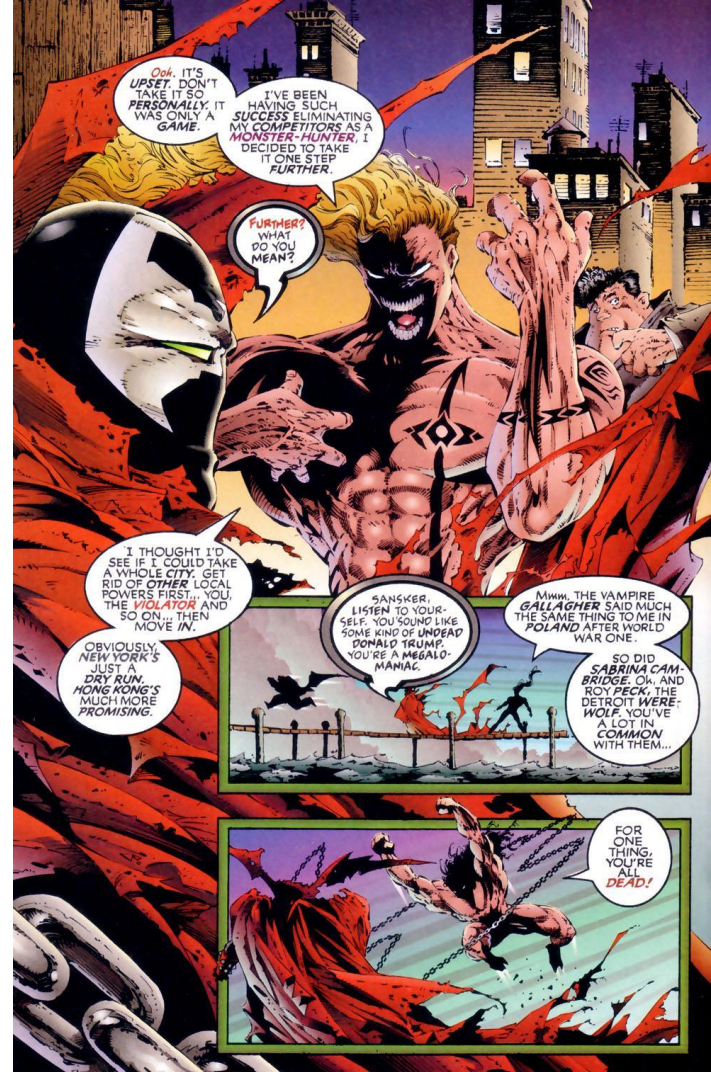
MY FINGERS
FIND THE
CORNERS OF
THE BOX. THEY
TRACE ITS
SEAMS AND
EDGES.

INSIDE,
SOMETHING
SHIFTS AND
CLATTERS
RESTLESS AND
IMPATIENT.

NOT LONG
NOW, BABY.
NOT LONG.













YOU KNOW, THIS IS ALMOST A CLICHE. THIS IS ALMOST CAMP. YOU KNOW THAT?

WHAT DO YOU THINK? THAT I'M GOING TO TURN TO DUST, JUST LIKE IN THE MOVIES?

I'M NOT BELA LUGOSI. I'M HEARTLESS JOHN. AND I'M A VAMPIRE'S VAMPIRE. I GARGLE WITH HOLY WATER AND PICK MY TEETH WITH CRUCIFIXES.

IN THE SUDAN, I ONCE ENDURED AN HOUR OF NOON HEAT...

YEAH? I THINK I THINK YOU TRIED A STRONGER BLOCK.

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. DOWN AT THE DOCKS SEND AS MANY UNITS AS YOU CAN.

AND AMBULANCES! WE GOT A LOT OF OFFICERS DOWN HERE! SANSKER JUST ABOUT ANNIHILATED US...

OH, DEAR, DID YOU HEAR THAT? YOU KNOW, THIS IS ALL STARTING TO BE TOO MUCH OF A BOTHER.



MAYBE I OUGHT TO SIT DOWN AND THINK THINGS OVER.

WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'M REVIEWING MY TRAVEL PLANS. YOU KNOW, I THINK IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE.

OH GOD, YOUR LEGS, THE SKIN, THE BONES, THEY'RE MELTING!

I THINK FUSING IS THE TERM YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.



ADIEU, CREATURE. I'M OFF TO OTHER SHORES. IT'S NICE TO KNOW MY TIME HERE HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETELY WASTED.

I'VE LEARNED THINGS THAT WILL COME IN HANDY WHEN I TAKE HONG KONG IN 2070.

AND I'VE DECEIVED YOU.

I MEAN, WHERE WILL YOU GO? YOUR C.I.A. FRIENDS SOLD YOU OUT. YOUR BUM FRIENDS TRIED TO KILL YOU.

YOU'RE GOING TO KNOW WHAT KNOWSTERS KNOW. WELCOME TO THE NIGHT. MY FRIENDS WELCOME TO THE NIGHT!

THE PUBLIC STILL THINKS YOU'RE A VAMPIRE. THE POLICE AREN'T SURE THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU BUT HIDING IN SHADOWS.

H-HEY, HEY, LISTEN, BIG GUY...

WE CAN STILL PLAY THIS STRAIGHT, OKAY? THEY'RE JUST GONNA WANT TO ASK A FEW QUESTIONS...

HE WAS RIGHT.

SANSKER WAS RIGHT. EVERYTHING I HAD IS GONE. THERE'S NOTHING LEFT HERE FOR ME. NO REASON TO REMAIN.





I hope you enjoyed the work done here by Alan, Tony, and Kevin. The response by the fans has been overwhelmingly positive throughout the mini-series.

Next month Tony and Kevin have a bit of a breather, but over the course of following 3 months, beginning in November, you will see bi-weekly issues of Spawn with one issue done by Tony and Kevin, and the other done by myself and Greg. All written by myself. The several story lines in these six issues will not only be interwoven, but will also debut a new character - APE-X. Going bi-weekly will enable me to develop the character of APE-X without making the readers wait a month between each issue.

Dear Senor McFarlane,

I just finished reading Blood Feud #2 and felt compelled to write and tell you how impressed I am with your creation. Al's a hero, but he's not. He's Hell's creation but with a guardian angel's mentality. He's a hero to most, but he's the people's champion. He's one bad-ass hero, though it seems a few of your "fans" may argue that he's turned into a limp.

I love his plight; he has super powers but doesn't use them unless he has to, like another masked character you've worked on in the past. Hey, think the two will ever team up? With their polar opposite attitudes, it would be a fun read.

Anyway, I also appreciate your artistic integrity, always true to your vision, regardless of critical opinion. I was pleasantly surprised at your response to a fan who used his and your time to go on a "Marvel bashing" rampage instead of speaking his mind on how he thinks your character is doing.

I believe that you and people like you can only add and multiply on what D.C. and Marvel have kept alive for so long. People like you have helped make Image the third comic giant. (That is no easy task.) I know, I've been collecting comic books for 19 years, on and off, and have seen characters come and go. Spawn is here to stay or at least for as long as his powers last. Hell, I may just go shopping for back issues.

THE SPAWN GROUND

P.O. Box 25468 ANAHEIM CA. 92825

I just wanted to thank you for having the guts to do what you're doing. It makes your work publish 38% of the comic market that much more of an enjoyable read.

Amando Rodriguez, Jr.
Milwaukee, WI

There are no plans in the foreseeable future to release a comic book, but acquire the troubled titles that we all currently face, we could be seeing more peace treaties amongst the companies rather than feuding. This, in turn, should create the potential for cross-overs which would enable creators to play with different characters. Something they have not been able to do in the past few years.

Dear Todd,

I know that your letters page isn't supposed to be a forum to discuss changes in the industry, but I simply have to respond to some of the comments made by Alex Niles in Blood Feud #2. Mr. Niles accuses retailers, like myself, of pushing Marvel titles (such as X-Men) instead of independent titles and that now we are "crying" because Marvel has pulled the rug out from under us. Well, first of all, I isn't a retailer's business to push any one title. X-Men became popular due to great art and storytelling over the better part of 15 years. It was already selling hundreds of thousands of copies prior to Jim Lee, White Portacio, or that godawful thing they're trying to pass off as a cartoon.

The difference is that retailers supported X-Men when it was growing and as a result Marvel spits on us and basically says "screw you" by going exclusively through Her World and throwing our worlds into turmoil. Retailers supported X-Men the same way we supported Image, Dark Horse, Cerebus, and Shi, the difference being that none of these folks (including you so far Todd) have seen fit to make a totally self-serving maneuver which is clearly detrimental to our industry, and tried justifying it as being "good for retailers". To accuse retailers of crying instead of blaming ourselves is not only an unfounded opinion but also an unfair one. I mean, these are our livelihoods that they are toying with and after so many years of dedication to Marvel and their products we simply believe that we deserve better treatment than this.

Now on to you, Todd. You said, "That some of the retailers are crying foul shows a lack of understanding of what business is all about." While this may be true in some cases, generally I don't think that's the case

at all. I believe that the retailers simply have some difficulty buying that a company which publishes 38% of the comic market containing approximately 9 to 15 best selling titles, owns two major trading card companies (Fleer and Skybox), a toy company (Toy Biz), and has endless licensing agreements as well as currently trying to acquire a toy chain (Kay-Bee), has enough trouble pleasing it's shareholders that a move like this was necessary. If Marvel was in financial straits then maybe this wouldn't be so bad (or if they were reacting to someone else's advances as is the case with D.C. and Diamonds' agreement), but this is solely an act which is intended to give Marvel Entertainment Group a hold on the comic industry as a whole.

While both you and Mr. Niles are entitled to your opinions, as I am mine, I felt that it was high time that somebody spoke out on behalf of retailers so that customers and fans can get a better understanding of our point of view. (Just as you said some retailer's problem is from a lack of understanding, so too is the fans' due to a lack of understanding on how retailers run their businesses.)

So please, before anyone passes judgment on retailers concerning Marvel, take a minute to look at it from our side, the informed, after which you can make an informed and more precise opinion. Thank you for your time.

Dark Emilian, Age 21
Crescent City Comics
New Orleans, LA

Thanks for speaking up and giving me another perspective on this subject. I am sure if I were to poll 20 different people, I would probably get 20 different answers in terms of how they felt about the current state of comic books. The only thing that does seem to be common is that we are all acknowledging that somewhere along the line great many of us have done a disservice to this business. I think one of the golden rules of good business conduct has been lost somewhere in recent times, and that is that the customer is king. We could all do wise to pay more attention to this rule for the customers represent all of our livelihoods. If there are further opinions out there or any store owners willing to share their views, I would be interested in hearing from you.

Dear Todd,

I have a few different points to make and no idea how to get them together. First of all, I really enjoy your book.

The quality is high, and everything just keeps getting better. I especially like the way that the heaven/hell power struggle is working out, and look forward to seeing more of it!

I like the new costume a lot. (I think that the slight similarities to Angela's costume are very well done.)

Greg Capullo is great! As good as the book was before, it's even better now. He has a solid style, and I think it is one of the most under rated artists in the business today. I've been following his work since Quasar, and I hope he has a long stint on Spawn.

Be sure to give the often-overlooked colorists, letterers, and editors a pat on the back, too! Top quality work.

Enough compliments, though. I'd like to talk a bit about spin-offs (Spawn-offs?) There has been a trend in the past decade (maybe all the time) that I'd like to know your feelings on. In the previous two mini-series (Angela and Violator), the main character of the book was a great supporting character in Spawn. And I enjoyed buying them for two reasons. 1.) They were high quality (especially Angela). 2.) I could have NOT bought them, with losing minimal development knowledge of Al Simmons. But this isn't the case with Blood Feud. This is another Spawn book, in the Spawn story line, with the same supporting characters. Basically, it's like Spawn 31 1/4, 31 1/2, and 31 3/4. The reason that this bothers me is because on a lot of popular titles nowadays, there are multiple books coming out about the same characters the same month. For example, Spiderman. If you like this character, you have to follow a Web of Spectacular, Amazing and the one you started, it's FOUR books.

It's the same thing for Superman. (They even have a different number system to make sure you keep track.) I had to abandon these books because it was just too much. To sum up, I don't want this to happen to Spawn, and gray and tan knife. How many variations of this book were made?

Why is the tremor figure so short, with yellow body zits none the less? He is my favorite character, yet his figure is my least favorite. And then you made him green! He's not green!

What ever happened to the Billy Kincaid Spawn? When will we be seeing him? Ron Rogers, age 13
Weymouth, PA

Thanks for your letter, Ron. I enjoy hearing feed back from fans with respect to what I do with the toys. The comments and suggestions often shed light on areas I had not considered. With respect to the Medieval Horse figure, it is currently being shipped to most major toy stores including Toys R Us, K-Mart, and Target. The distributors are also ordering some so you should be able to find a few in your local comic book store. Yes, there is a Commando Spawn with an unspeckled gun, and it is the original version of the toy and this is very rare. With Chapel, it is hard to say which version is the rarest as we do not have exact num-

tion is by letting somebody else do it, and that is the reason behind Blood Feud. I felt it was time to make the point that a man with a cloak, who can't seem to die, and likes to live in the darkness of the shadows all the time, could mistakenly be considered a vampire. Alan and I then took this idea and put it into play. If you read the box at the beginning of this column, you will see that I am going to go to bi-weekly's. This is the only other way that I can use moving the story along pretty fast instead of having people wait 60 to 90 days to see how a particular story line works out. Take a look at the bi-weekly issues and let me know what you think.

Dear Todd,

There are some things that I have got to say. First, on a light note, I must admit that I'm a huge fan of both your comic and your line of figures. Unfortunately, what I'm not a fan of is the way you re-released the Clown, Tremor, and Overkill figures, making them lose nearly all of their value as collectible figures. 1.) They were high quality (especially Angela). 2.) I could have repainted or changed in some way, I hoped that this would actually increase the value of the original figures with these variant figures! What were you thinking? I just hope you don't make the same mistake with your new line of figures and start producing more Malebolgia and Angela figures, which appear to be the rarest of your new batch.

Could you please answer a couple of nagging questions for me?

- 1) What ever happened to the Medieval Horse figure that appeared in Wizard #397?
- 2) Is there a Commando Spawn with an unspeckled gun? I've yet to see one amongst the millions of speckled guns on the shelves.
- 3) Which version of Chapel is the rarest? So far I've seen one with a gray knife, tan knife, and gray and tan knife. How many variations of this book were made?
- 4) Why is the tremor figure so short, with yellow body zits none the less? He is my favorite character, yet his figure is my least favorite. And then you made him green! He's not green!
- 5) What ever happened to the Billy Kincaid Spawn? When will we be seeing him?

Ron Rogers, age 13
Weymouth, PA

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bers. Chapel's knife was originally incorrectly made and the subsequent variations were the factory's attempts at correcting the knife.

Dear Mr. Todd McFarlane,

I just wanted to applaud you on your success in the comic book field. I used to collect comics when I was a kid. I got into flying when I was 16 and got out of collecting. Now I am somewhat successful and I have more free time to set aside for other things. So one day I was in a bookstore and saw Spawn #2 and read it, and here I am hooked on Spawn with every issue and toy ever sold. I bought and displayed them in our special comic room. Spawn Alley. My wife and I are both kids at heart and can't wait until we start having kids so that one day we can start having kids so that we can share our collection with them. I would like to say one thing to all the people who have the "I can't find the toys" syndrome. I never thought we would find them all but we did. If you look hard and often enough you will find them all, and at a fair price. Is there some way you could list all of the variant toys so far? I hope that you never do your comic books with all the variants; the toys are enough, just don't go overboard. I hope you don't do too many crossovers and mini-series. I one has to buy 10 books a month to follow a story, then they won't have much to spend on other stuff. Sorry. I can't think of anything negative to say about you or your book.

Your friends forever,
Terry and Rhonda Bockover

As I have said numerous times, you don't have to be a kid to enjoy comics and toys. I'm not a kid, but you should see my office. It is full of all sorts of toys.

Putting a list together of the variant toys would be almost impossible unless we had someone at the factory look at every toy and make notes when a change or variation occurs.

When a lot of details on the variants are applied by hand, a variant can occur at any point during the run. Also, at the beginning of each and every run of toys, numerous variations can be found as the factory gets used to the new figures they are producing.

EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE AN ERROR OCCURS IN THE PRODUCTION OF A COMIC BOOK.

IN LAST MONTHS BLOOD FEUD #3, ON PAGE 12, PANEL ONE, A WORD IN THE THIRD BALLOON WAS ACCIDENTALLY LEFT OUT. HERE IS THE BALLOON AS IT SHOULD'VE BEEN PRINT.

I HAD TO GET RID OF MY COSTUME I- I THINK IT WAS KILLING PEOPLE



-MULTIVERSAL

MONITORS-



pgDS.



-EARTHS IN JEOPARDY-

THERE'LL BE

HELL
TO
PAY



Draw

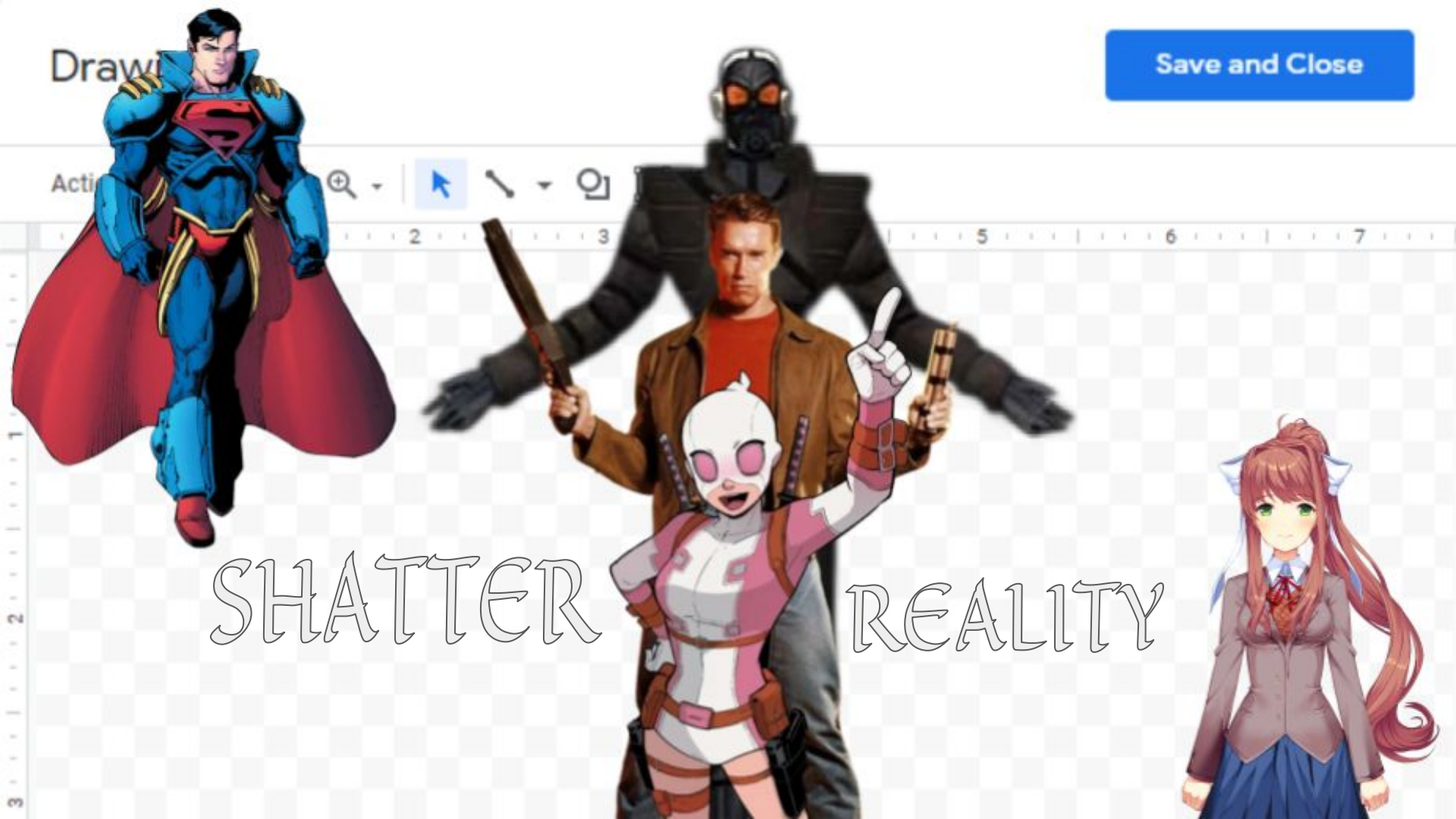
Save and Close

Acti



SHATTER

REALITY



PROVIDE LEVITY

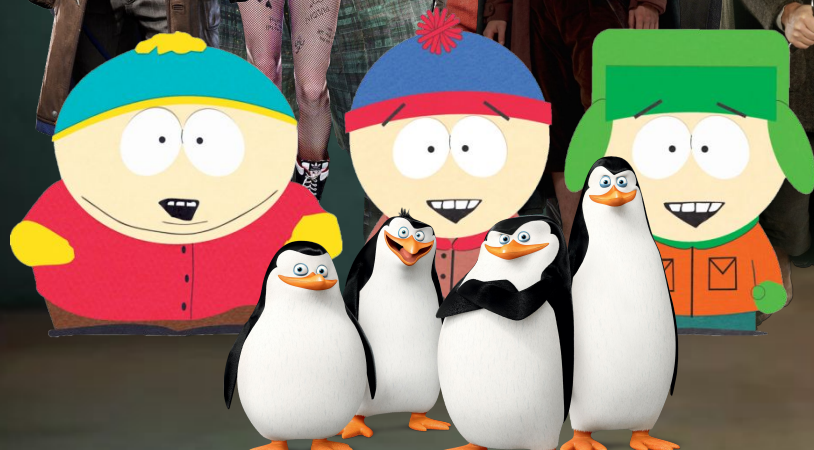


CHANGE YOUR FUTURE



STAND READY



[illegible]

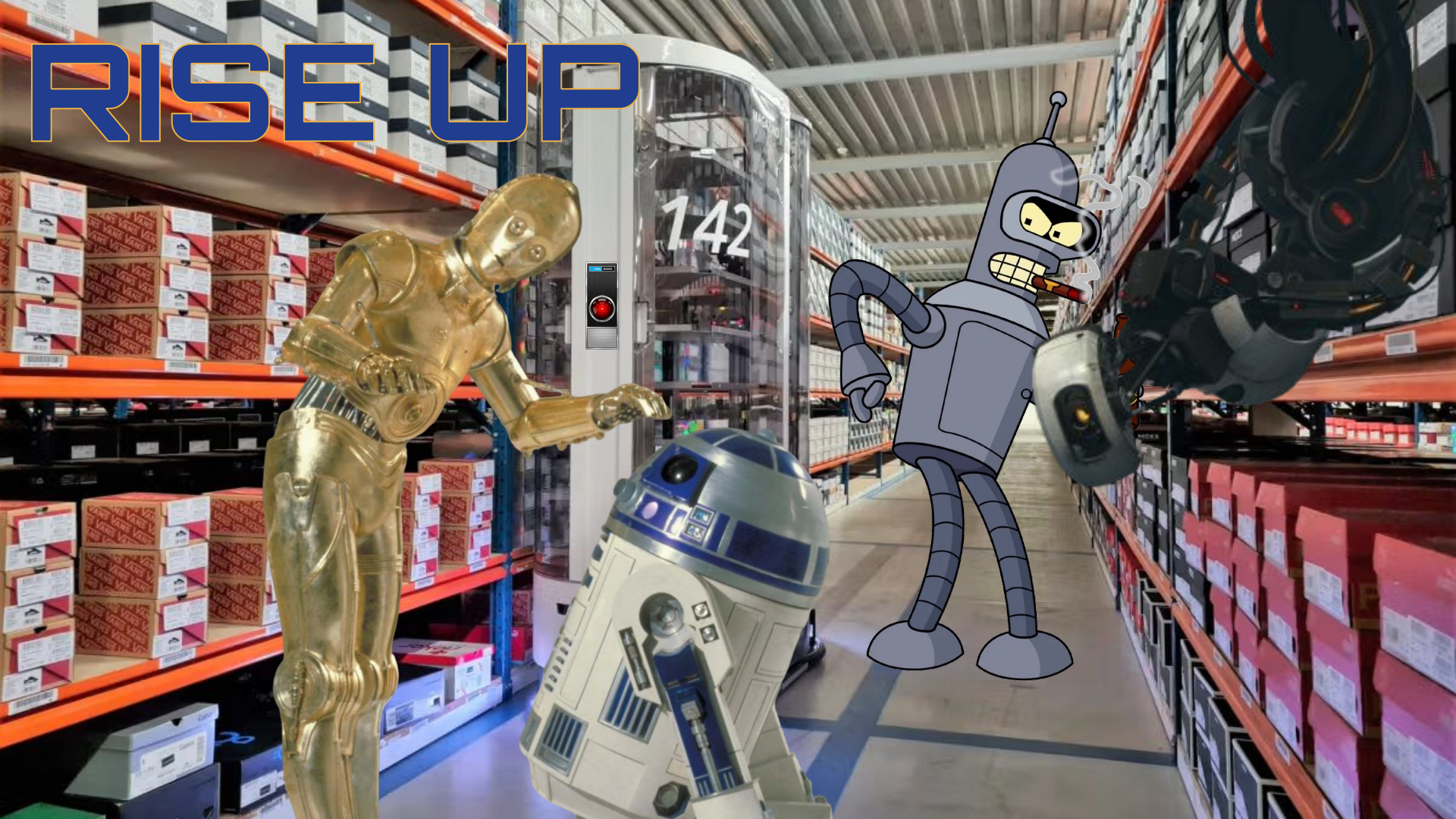
NOTHING EVER ENDS



BE GREATER
TOGETHER



RISE UP



LAUGH AND CRY



NEVER

STOP

BEING

SILLY





TOGETHER

FOREVER

IT AIN'T THE SIZE THAT COUNTS
asshole
ITS WHAT YOU DO WITH IT





YOU'RE NEVER ALONE

JUST SMILE



THE RULERS OF EARTH



GUIDE THE FUTURE



"WILDCARD!"



"WHERE ARE THOSE
GOOD OLD FASHIONED
VALUES"



NEVER
HATING

STOP



"SOMETIMES DOING THE
RIGHT THING IS MESSY"



PROTECT

THE

PLANET



HEROES FOR HOPE

